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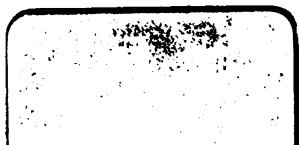


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THE

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ADVERTISEMENT.

THE following pages were the production of a boy of twelve years of age, and were originally published some years ago.

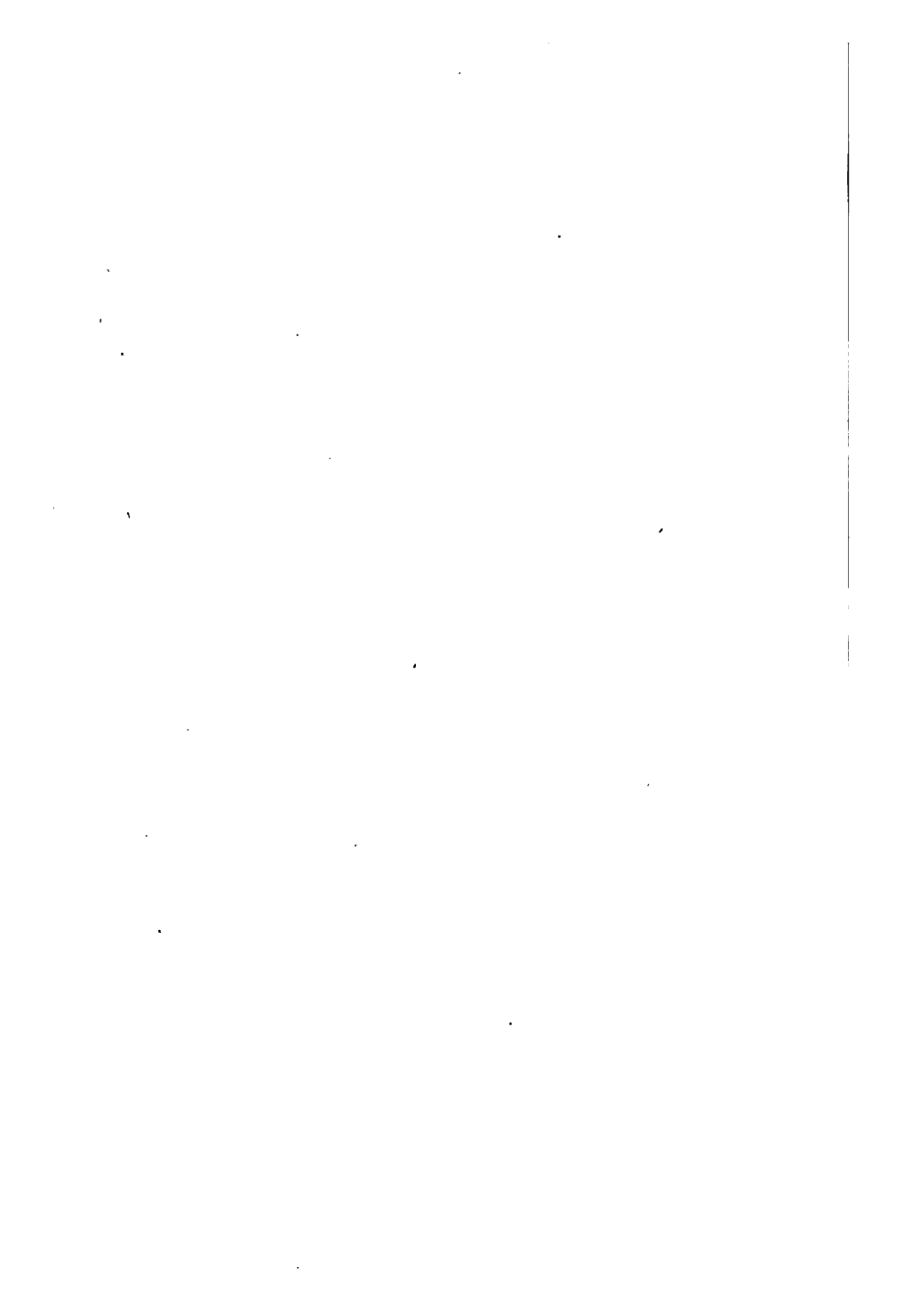
The proceeds of the sale, when the *Chronological Sketches* first appeared, were dedicated to the Restoration of an Anglican Church.

Since attaining to man's estate, the Author has had the happiness of becoming a Catholic.

The present Edition of this little work has therefore been amended and corrected, so as to adapt it for circulation in Catholic schools and families.

Copies for distribution, as Prizes for Schools, &c., &c., may be had by application to H. M. L.

*College of Arms,
London, E.C.*



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N.B.—The names of those Children of the Kings and Queens who died in their father's lifetime, are printed in Italics.

A CHRONOLOGICAL SKETCH,

ETC.

WILLIAM THE CONQUEROR.

NORMAN.

Character—Ambitious, bold, enterprising, vindictive, and stern ; a haughty monarch, and able statesman : feared by his subjects, and hated by his enemies.

Born . . . 1023.

Ascended the throne—October 14, 1066.

Principal events—Introduction of the curfew-bell and doomsday-book ; the foundation of the New Forest ; the war with France ; the introduction of instrumental music into England ; the custom of beheading first resorted to ; and the insurrection of Prince Robert.

Possessions—England and Normandy.

Married—Matilda of Flanders.

Children—Robert Duke of Normandy, *Richard*, *WILLIAM*, Henry, Cecilia, *Adelaide*, *Matilda*.^{*} Constance, Adela, *Gundred*.[†]

Death of William—September 9, 1087.

Death of Matilda—November 2, 1083.

Parents { Robert, Duke of Normandy ;
 { Harlotta, daughter of a tanner of Falaise.

Age when he died—64.

THE RESULTS OF EVIL COUNSEL.

PRINCE ROBERT, the King's eldest son, who was of a fiery and hasty temper, was one day engaged in conversation with Alberic de Grentmesnil (a young nobleman who had been deprived of all his estates by William, and who, therefore, bore an inveterate enmity against the Conqueror) when his younger brothers, William and Henry, called to him from a window of the Château d'Aigle (where the Royal Family were then residing) to come upstairs, and amuse himself with them : Robert joyfully obeyed the call ; and, after a few hours merriment, was returning with Alberic to the Court, when William and Henry took it into their heads to throw some water over him as he passed under the archway below their window. For a moment Robert stopped, and coloured with vexation ; but immediately recovering himself, was about to continue without taking any notice of it, when Alberic stepped before him, and exclaimed : " My lord, you will surely not submit to such a bold insult, or else you have not the courageous disposition for which I have hitherto given you credit." Stung by the reproach, and irritated, Robert instantly drew his sword, and vowing vengeance against his brothers, rushed upstairs. A tumult and confusion ensued, which even the King himself could not quell ; and Robert, angrily leaving the Castle, assembled an army and openly revolted against his father.

^{*} By some called Agatha.

[†] Sandford, in his Genealogical History of the Kings of England, gives Gundred as fifth daughter of William the First. It is supposed by some, however, that she was only his step-daughter, the child of Queen Matilda, by a former marriage.

WILLIAM RUFUS—OR II.

NORMAN.!

Character—Cruel, arbitrary, and unjust; a tyrannical monarch, of a ferocious disposition; his only good quality was bravery.

Born . . . 1056.

Ascended the throne—September 9, 1087.

Principal events—The building of Westminster Hall; the first crusade; the conquest of Normandy; and the building of the Tower of London.

Possessions—England and Normandy.

Killed . . . August 2, 1100.

Parents { William I.;
 { Matilda of Flanders.

Age when he died—44.

"THE NOBLEST GAME IN THE FOREST."

THE horses were already at the gate, and the King was about to go forth in order to join the chase, when Sir Walter Tyrrel was summoned to the presence, where he found William the Second seated at a table, on which a small collation was served. The monarch graciously begged him to partake of the repast, and began to talk of the anticipated sport. Then ordering several arrows to be brought into the apartment, he desired the knight to choose six of the strongest, saying, "Come, Tyrrel, you shoot well—choose the best of these: here, there are a dozen—take these six, and I will have the rest." "Nay, your majesty honours me too much," answered Sir Walter; "I cannot accept of such favours." "Well, then," exclaimed William, laughing, "I *command* you to take these arrows and shoot the noblest game in the forest! Haste, Sir, haste! the steeds are waiting: summon the lords, and we will to the chase." So saying, he arose, and left the room.

The sun had already reached its height, when the Royal William, attended by Prince Henry, Sir Walter Tyrrel, and several others, mounted his noble steed and hastened into the forest, in order to enjoy the pleasures of the chase. The young Prince soon separated himself from the others, and then Sir Walter turned to the King, and exclaimed, "Your Majesty would do better, methinks, to pursue the animal through yonder glen, whilst I turn into this pathway and force him to fly into the trap laid to ensnare him." "Right," replied the monarch; and he galloped towards the direction pointed out by the knight, and was soon lost among the thickets that encompassed his path, when he was startled by the sudden appearance of the stag, which darted past his horse, causing the animal to rear. At that instant an arrow whizzed through the air, and, ere William could look round, was deeply embedded in his heart.

Sir Walter Tyrrel was the marksman, and he had not missed his aim; for "the noblest game in that forest" then fell, to rise no more. Such was the tragical end of the second William; doubtless, a punishment for the many crimes of which he had been guilty,

HENRY I., BEAUCLERC.

NORMAN.

Character—Daring, accomplished, and wise; but his conduct towards his brother and nephew was cruel and unjust.

Born . . . 1068.

Ascended the throne—August 2, 1100.

Principal events—War with Normandy; quarrel with Anselm, the primate; deaths of Prince William and the Countess of Perche; and the order of Knights Templars instituted.

Possessions—England and Normandy.

Married—Matilda of Scotland, and Adelia of Louvaine.

Children—William and MATILDA, by Matilda of Scotland, and several illegitimate.

Death of Henry—December 1, 1135.

Death of Matilda—May 1, 1118.

Death of Adelia—April, 1151.

Parents—The same as William the Second.

Age when he died—67.

THE SHIPWRECK.

"WHAT says our captain?" inquired Prince William, the youthful heir-apparent to the throne. "The wind is too high, and we must not sail? Nay, my good men, you forget that my Royal Father ere this has drawn near the British coast. Onward!—no objections; high wind or calm, this day shall see the White Ship bearing me o'er the waters!"—and with rapid strides he approached the vessel. "Ah, but a thought strikes me!" continued he, stopping and addressing the captain: "Fitzstephen, mind you let the men have wine; we must be merry, and not sad, when we escort my sister back to our fair land of England." The captain remonstrated, the Prince persisted; and finally the ship set sail, with himself and his sister, the Countess of Perche, on board. "Cheer up, Maude," he exclaimed, addressing the latter; "this is but an idle story about the Catté Rasé; there will be no accident, although the commander shakes his head, and the sailors think of shipwrecks, and other foolish things." "Not so," said Fitzstephen, approaching; "Your Highness thinks fit to jest on serious matters, but I assure you there is cause for fear." Even whilst he spoke, the ship, driven by the impetuosity of the waves, was dashed against the rocks. "Save me! Oh, save me!" cried the Countess, throwing herself into her brother's arms. A boat was immediately lowered, into which the Prince was hurried; and before he had time to inquire for his sister, the men pushed off towards land. Instantly commanding them to return, however, to save the Countess, who was screaming, and clinging to the masts for safety, the boat once more neared the vessel,—but immediately, so many people sprang in, that it instantly sank. * * * * *

"Bertould," inquired Fitzstephen (who, with a butcher of Rouen, had clung to a mast, and thus saved themselves), "did the Prince escape?" "No," answered Bertould, "he was drowned with his sister." "Then I will not survive him!" exclaimed the unfortunate man, and threw himself into the sea. The butcher was afterwards saved by some fishermen; and alone, of five hundred individuals, lived to relate the sad tale of the young Prince's death.

* Sandford only mentions these two children of Henry I., by Matilda of Scotland. Other authorities add a son Richard and a daughter Euphemia also by this Queen, both of whom are said to have died young.

STEPHEN.

OF BLOIS.

Character—Ambitious, active, and courageous.

Born . . . 1103.

Ascended the throne—December 1, 1135.

Principal events—The war with Scotland, and the civil wars between himself and Matilda, daughter of Henry I., the rightful heir to the throne.

Possessions—England and Normandy.

Married—Matilda of Boulogne.

Children — *Baldwin, Eustace, William, Earl of Boulogne, Matilda, Mary.*

Death of Stephen—October 25, 1154.

Death of Matilda—May 3, 1152.

Parents { Stephen, Count of Blois, *d.* 1101.
 { Adela, daughter of William I., *d.* 1137.

Age when he died—51.

THE MISERIES OF CIVIL WAR.

In a lowly hut, built by the high road, dwelt an old woman and two children, called Emma and Lucilla. The civil wars, which then devastated our peaceful country, had not as yet approached their humble abode, and the study of the two little girls was to please their old grandmother. The latter used to go regularly every day to the neighbouring castle, where the good Lady used to patronize her, and sometimes employed her to carry messages to the villages that were near, and repaid her for it afterwards. One day she returned with a gentleman, who spoke for some time with her, in a low tone, and then departed; the curiosity of Emma and Lucilla was of course excited; but the mystery was soon solved. The next day a party of soldiers, under the Empress Matilda, arrived at the cottage, and accused the old woman of harburing a partizan of Stephen; she and the little girls were turned out, and their hut burnt to the ground. Flying for security to the altar, Lucilla comforted her younger sister and grandmother, and they then followed the example of many of their poorer neighbours, and, erecting a hut in the churchyard, lived in the greatest misery. At first they attempted to apply to the Castle; but the proprietors were away, and could afford them no relief; and, overwhelmed with grief and wretchedness, old Margery at length expired, and was buried by her two little grandchildren—who were thus left destitute in the world. In a little time, however, Stephen regained the throne; and as it was one of his most powerful nobles that Margery had aided to escape, the two little girls were reinstated in a new cottage; and, the inhabitants of the Castle returning, they were once more employed in the service of the Baron De Lona,* whose son was the nobleman they had saved. About this time a fever broke out in the village, of which poor little Emma died; Lucilla then went to live entirely at the Castle; and on his father's death, the young Baron (never forgetting his obligations to her grandmother) saw her comfortably established in life, respected and loved by many.

* One of the ancestors of the loyal family of Lane, in Staffordshire.

M A T I L D A.

NORMAN.

Character—Proud and courageous. She contested bravely the crown, which was hers by right, but alienated her friends and embittered her foes by her overbearing conduct.

Born . . . 1104.

Ascended the throne—1141; *resigned it to Stephen*, 1153.

Principal events—Rebellion of the citizens of London, headed by Henry, Bishop of Winchester; flight of the Queen and her brother, the Earl of Gloucester.

Possessions—England and Normandy.

Married—Henry V., Emperor of Germany, and Geoffrey Plantagenet, Earl of Anjou.

Children—Christina by the Emperor Henry V., HENRY, *Geoffrey*, William, Emma, by Geoffrey, Earl of Anjou.

Death of Matilda—September 10, 1167.

Death of Henry—1126.

Death of Geoffrey—September, 1150.

Parents— { Henry I.
 { Matilda of Scotland.

Age when she died—63.

INHERENT TASTE FOR ROYALTY.

THE character of this Queen was proud and ambitious. Above all things she loved power and majesty, and zealously contested for the crown, which was hers by right. The following anecdote will serve to show that even in her play-hours, as a child, her pastimes bore the stamp of a regal and aspiring nature :

It was on a fine afternoon in summer when the Princess Matilda, only daughter of King Henry I., entered the grounds and woods surrounding the princely Castle of La Champs, where her royal mother was then staying for the benefit of her health. Walking slowly along, she at length arrived at a bower, which she entered, and then stopped to contemplate the interior. In one corner was raised a canopy of red silk, under which was placed a chair of state, whilst in the centre, negligently thrown on the ground, lay a crown of flowers and a cloak trimmed with ermine, which, hastily advancing, she picked up, and placing the robe on her shoulders, and holding the crown in her hands, she looked round with an air as much as to say, "And now, who can refuse me homage?" Then, approaching the throne, (which she had raised herself,) she sat down, and was in the act of taking up a wooden sceptre which lay on the ground, when a shower of rain, descending through the arbour, spoiled her throne, robe, and crown, and compelled her to take refuge in the Castle.

In the same way, in after life, did she triumphantly take possession of the throne of England; and in like manner was she obliged to take refuge in a foreign country from the storms raised by rebels in her own dominions.

HENRY II.

PLANTAGENET.

Character—A bold Prince, a prudent King, and one of the most famous men of his age.

Born . . . March 5, 1132—3.

Ascended the throne—October 25, 1154.*

Principal events—The conquest of Ireland; the martyrdom of Saint Thomas of Canterbury; the rebellion of Prince Henry; the introduction of glass windows and surnames; and the war with Scotland.

Possessions—England, Ireland, and Normandy.

Married—Eleanor of Aquitaine.

Children—William, Henry, Richard, Geoffrey, John, Matilda, Eleanor, Joanna.

Death of Henry—July 6, 1189.

Death of Eleanor—June 26, 1202.†

Parents— { Geoffrey, Earl of Anjou.
 { Matilda, daughter of Henry I.

Age when he died—56.

THE CONSEQUENCES OF DISOBEDIENCE.

INEXPRESSIBLY shocked and indignant at the conduct of his son Richard, King Henry II. retired to the Castle of Chinon, in Normandy, and there assembled an army, with which he endeavoured to give battle to the Prince and his ally, the King of France. His soldiers deserted, however, and his governors proved traitorous: therefore nothing remained for the monarch to do, but to submit to the hard terms imposed upon him by the victors, and to sign an act of indemnity or pardon to all concerned in the rebellion. Judge then, reader, of his astonishment, when, on taking up the scroll of parchment presented to him for this purpose, the name of his favourite and youngest son John was the first to meet his view. This overwhelming blow completely broke the unhappy monarch's heart, and pronouncing a malediction on his undutiful and disobedient sons, which he was never afterwards prevailed on to retract, he expired in agonies, both of mind and body.

* The Empress-Queen Matilda was still living when her son Henry ascended the throne, but as she had resigned her claims in his favour, his succession was undisputed.

† March 31, 1204—*L'art de Verifier les Dates*.

RICHARD I.

PLANTAGENET.

Character—Brave and warlike in disposition; he had many generous impulses, but his private life was anything but perfect.

Born . . . September 13, 1157.

Ascended the throne—July 6, 1189.

Principal events—His expedition to the Holy Land; his imprisonment by the Emperor of Germany on his way to England through Austria; the invasion of Normandy during his absence by Philip Augustus, King of France; and the treachery of his brother John.

Possessions—England, Ireland, and Normandy.

Married—Berengaria of Navarre.

Killed—April 6, 1199.

Death of Berengaria—1230.*

Parents— { Henry II.
 { Eleanor of Aquitaine.

Age when he died—41.

“DIEU ET MON DROIT” was Richard’s motto.

REVENGE.

IN a splendid apartment, surrounded by his courtiers and the ministers of the Church, Richard the First, stretched on a satin couch, was rapidly drawing towards his end; the wound which he had received whilst besieging the Castle of Chalons proving mortal. “Summon de Gourdon,” at length he said, turning to an attendant, “and let us hear what the wretch has to say for himself.” The order was instantly obeyed, and Bertrame de Gourdon entered the room. The prisoner was a dark and determined-looking man: he advanced with a sullen air into the immediate presence of the dying monarch; and in answer to Richard’s interrogatory of what had induced him to seek his life, he dauntlessly replied, “My natural enmity towards you, and my desire to be revenged. You slew my father and brother with your own hands, and intended to have killed me also; and I am ready to bear patiently any torments you may choose to inflict, since I have had the good fortune to destroy the life of one who has brought so much misery on mankind!” Richard, struck with the truth of this bold reply, ordered the man to be set at liberty; but this command was not obeyed, and Bertrame was put to death as soon as the King had expired.

* According to some authorities Queen Berengaria only retired into a Convent which she herself had founded at this date, and lived there for many years after.

JOHN.

PLANTAGENET.

Character—Weak, cruel, and ambitious.

Born . . . December 24, 1166.

Ascended the throne—April 6, 1199.

Principal events—The murder of Prince Arthur, nephew of King John, and son of Geoffrey, his elder brother, who died in 1186; the imprisonment of Eleanor, sister of Arthur, commonly called the Damsel of Bretagne;* the rebellion of the Barons; the signing of Magna Charta; and the invasion of England by Louis, son of Philip II., King of France.

Possessions—England and Ireland.

Married—Isabel of Gloucester, divorced 1199; and Isabella of Angoulême.

Children—HENRY, Richard King of the Romans, Joanna, Isabella, Eleanor, by Isabella of Angoulême.

Death of John—October 19, 1216.

Death of Isabella—1245.

Parents—The same as Richard I.

Age when he died—49.

THE CRUEL UNCLE.

ON the death of Richard the First, the rightful heir to the throne was his nephew, Arthur, son of his next brother, Geoffrey; but this Prince being yet young, John, the next surviving brother, seized upon the throne, and had not they escaped to France, and fled to the protection of Philip, King of that country, he would have placed both Arthur and his sister in prison. John continued for some time to make preparations for defence, in case Arthur should attack him; but on that Prince's marriage with Philip's daughter, the latter supplied him with an army, with which he entered England, and endeavoured to wrest the crown from his uncle John. Unfortunately young Arthur was taken prisoner, his army totally defeated, and he himself confined in the strong Castle of Falaise, under the care of Hubert de Burgh, governor of the fortress, whom King John employed to put him to death, or to put out his eyes with hot irons. However, moved by his innocent victim's prayers and entreaties, Hubert resolved to protect him from the hands of his enemies; so, after concealing him in a safe place, he gave out that he was dead, in order to satisfy the cruel disposition of John. But when the Bretons, Arthur's own subjects, heard of this, they were so incensed that Hubert was obliged to acknowledge that the young prince was living; upon which King John came down, and with his own hands stabbed him to death, and thus rid himself of so dangerous a claimant to the throne. John died suddenly (poisoned, it is said), after a reign of unceasing turmoil, as he was marching his army across the Wash, in opposition to Louis, son of the King of France, who had invaded his dominions.

* After her brother's death, rightful heiress to the throne.

HENRY III.

PLANTAGENET.

Character—Goodnatured and weak : he was unfitted to govern in such troublesome times, and showed a great partiality for foreigners and favourites.

Born . . . October 1, 1207.

Ascended the throne—October 19, 1216.

Principal events—The rebellion of the barons, headed by the King's brother-in-law, Simon, Earl of Leicester ; Henry and his son's imprisonment ; Prince Edward's escape ; the battle of Lewes ; the rescue of Henry and his restoration.

Possessions—England and Ireland.

Married—Eleanor of Provence.

Children—EDWARD, Edmund, King of Sicily, *Richard, John, William, Henry*, Margaret, Beatrice, *Katherine*.

Death of Henry—November 16, 1272.

Death of Eleanor—June 25, 1291.*

Parents— { John.
 { Isabella of Angoulême.

Age when he died—65.

THE PRISONER'S ESCAPE.

JOHN was succeeded by his son Henry, under whom the Barons soon revolted, and took him and his son, Prince Edward, prisoners ; but the wild spirit of the latter determined him to break the restraint thus imposed upon him, and to plan an escape in the following manner :—His friend, the Earl of Gloucester, having lent him a remarkably swift horse, he affected indisposition, and obtained permission to take exercise on horseback. So, one morning, being mounted on this very steed, he proposed to his attendants to run races, but excused himself from joining the amusement by alleging that the exercise was too violent in his present state of health. Accordingly, after waiting until the horses of his guards were entirely exhausted, he put spurs to his own, and, wishing them a good morning,† rode until he arrived at the English camp ; where he was immediately joined by Gloucester, and all the loyal Barons who flocked to his standard. He soon assembled a large army, with which he fought a battle at Evesham, in which he killed his former captor, Leicester, and rescued his father.

* June 24, according to *Strickland*.

† The scene was at Dover Castle.

EDWARD I.

PLANTAGENET.

Character—Bold, warlike and cruel ; his intrepid conduct during the imprisonment of his father, and his many conquests, made him generally popular among his subjects.

Born . . . June 17,* 1239.

Ascended the throne—November 16, 1272.

Principal events—The conquest of Wales ; the war with Scotland, and the battle of Falkirk ; together with the cruel execution of Wallace, the Scottish hero.

Possessions—England, Ireland, and Wales.

Married—Eleanor of Castile, and Marguerite of France.

Children—John, Henry, Alphonso, EDWARD PRINCE OF WALES, Eleanor, Joan, Margaret, Berengaria, Alice, Mary, Elizabeth, Beatrice, Blanche, by Eleanor of Castile ; Thomas, Earl of Norfolk, Edmund, Earl of Kent ; and Eleanor, by Marguerite of France.†

Death of Edward—July 7, 1307.

Death of Eleanor—November 27, 1290.‡

Death of Marguerite—February 14, 1317—18.§

Parents— { Henry III.
 { Eleanor of Provence.

Age when he died—68.

THE FIRST ENGLISH PRINCE OF WALES.

THE inhabitants of Wales, after beholding their Prince defeated and killed in battle, and his brother David beheaded as a common malefactor, threw themselves at the feet of the King of England, imploring his mercy and forbearance. Great, then, was their astonishment and delight when Edward, after assuring them of their future freedom and of his protection, informed them that he was about to present unto them a Prince of their own country, who spoke no other language, and had no prejudice in favour of any other nation. Then turning to his attendants he took from them his infant son Edward, who had just been born at Carnarvon, and presenting him to the Welsh, told them that he for the future should be their governor and leader. From that period the eldest son of every sovereign of England has usually borne the title of " Prince of Wales."

* June 18—*L'art de Verifier les Dates.*

† See Sandford's Genealogical History of the Kings of England.

‡ November 29—*Strickland.* § 1319—*L'art de Verifier les Dates.*

EDWARD II.

PLANTAGENET.

Character—Weak and irresolute; he entertained a passion for favourites, and through his misgovernment, brought himself to an untimely end.

Born . . . April 25, 1284.

Ascended the throne—July 7, 1307.

Principal events—The war with Scotland, and the Battle of Bannockburn; the executions of Gaveston and Le Despencer, the King's favourites; and his own dethronement, imprisonment, and death in Berkeley Castle.

Possessions—England, Ireland, and Wales.

Married—Isabella (the "She-wolf") of France.

Children—EDWARD, John Earl of Cornwall, Eleanor, and Joanna.

Murder of Edward—January 25, 1326-7.*

Death of Isabella—August 22, 1357.†

Parents— { Edward I.
 { Eleanor of Castile.

Age when he died—42.

THE ANONYMOUS LETTER.

THE Royal party were at Westminster; and it was during the Whitsuntide festival of 1317, that a woman, disguised by a mask, rode on a spirited horse up to the Royal dining-table in the grand hall, (where the King was receiving the public,) and presented His Majesty with a letter, which the monarch, "imagining that it contained some pleasant conceit or elegant compliment," ordered to be read aloud by one of the company. To the great astonishment and indignation of all parties, it was discovered to be an upbraiding epistle, addressed to Edward, and full of abusive language both towards him and his favourites. The woman was immediately sent for, and confessed that she had been employed by a Knight then present; who stated in his defence, that "supposing the King would read the letter in private, he took that method of apprising him of the complaints of his subjects."

* September 21, 1327—*L'art de Verifier les Dates.*

† 1358—*Strickland's Queens.*

EDWARD III.

PLANTAGENET.

Character—Bold, fearless, and intrepid ; a renowned warrior, and discreet Sovereign.

Born . . . November 13, 1312.

Ascended the throne—January 25, 1326-7.

Principal events—The executions of Mortimer, Earl of March, and of Edmund, Earl of Kent ; the wars with France and Spain ; the Battles of Cressy, Poitiers, and Najara ; and the institution of the Order of the Garter.

Possessions—England, Ireland, Wales, and France.

Married—Philippa of Hainault.

Children—*Edward Prince of Wales*, d. 1376, commonly called "The Black Prince," from the colour of his armour, *William of Hatfield*, *Lionel Duke of Clarence*, John Duke of Lancaster, Edmund Earl of Cambridge, afterward Duke of York, *William of Windsor*, Thomas Earl of Buckingham, afterwards Duke of Gloucester, *Isabella*, *Joanna*, *Blanche*, Mary, Margaret.

Death of Edward—June 21, 1377.

Death of Philippa—August 15, 1369.*

Parents— { Edward II.
 { Isabella of France.

Age when he died—64.

THE JESTER.

AFTER the memorable sea-fight of the Sluys was over, and the news of the total defeat of the French had reached Paris, no one had the courage to inform Philip VI. of his great loss, until his jester one day exclaimed in his hearing, "Oh ! what dastardly cowards these English are !" "How so ?" said the King. "Because," rejoined the jester, "they did not jump into the sea, as our brave men have done." An explanation was then demanded, and the courtiers informed the King of the whole disastrous story.

* August 14—*Strickland*.

RICHARD II.

PLANTAGENET.

Character—Richard was a man of good ability, but of an irresolute mind.

Born . . . January 6, 1366-7.

Ascended the throne—June 21, 1377.

Principal events—Executions of Sir Simon Burleigh and of the Duke of Gloucester; rebellion of Wat Tyler; Battle of Otterbourne; general insurrection, and dethronement of the King.

Possessions—England, Ireland, and Wales.

Married—Anne of Bohemia, and Isabella of Valois.

Murder of Richard—February 14, $\frac{1399}{1400}$.*

Death of Anne—June 7, 1394.

Death of Isabella—September 13, 1409.†

Parents— $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Edward Prince of Wales, d. 1376.} \\ \text{Joan, daughter of Edmund Earl of Kent, widow of} \\ \text{Sir John Holland, created Earl of Kent—com-} \\ \text{monly called the Fair Maid of Kent.} \end{array} \right.$

Age when he died—33.

PRESENCE OF MIND.

DURING the afternoon of the 15th of June, 1381, the King, riding through Smithfield, and attended by a numerous retinue, was suddenly met by Wat Tyler, at the head of 20,000 men, who behaved with so much insolence towards his Sovereign, that Sir William Walworth, the Lord Mayor, unable to restrain his indignation, felled him to the ground; and ere the insurgents had time to recover from their surprise, the youthful King, riding up to them, exclaimed, "My friends, be not concerned for the loss of your unworthy leader: I am your King—I will be your leader!" The people, charmed by his address and presence of mind, instantly laid down their arms and peaceably returned to their homes.

* In Fraser Tytler's History of Scotland, vol. iii., p. 95, he says that Richard II., having escaped into Scotland, died at Stirling.

† 1410—Strickland.

HENRY IV.*

PLANTAGENET.

Character—Experienced in the art of war, and a prudent Monarch, but unprincipled and cruel.

Born . . . 1366.

Ascended the throne—September 30, 1399.

Principal events—The war with Scotland; Battle of Shrewsbury; institution of the order of the Bath; and the persecutions of the Lollards.

Possessions—England, Ireland, and Wales.

Married—Mary de Bohun, and Joanna of Navarre.

Children—HENRY PRINCE OF WALES, Thomas Duke of Clarence, John Duke of Bedford, Humphrey Duke of Gloucester, *Blanche Duchess of Bavaria*, and Philippa Queen of Denmark, by Mary de Bohun.

Death of Henry—March 20, 1412-13.

Death of Mary—1394.

Death of Joanna—July 10,† 1437.

Parents— { John, Duke of Lancaster.
 { Blanche, heiress of Lancaster.

Age when he died—46.

THE FOUR KINGS.

It was during this reign that, at the fatal battle of Shrewsbury, the gallant Earl of Douglas, wearied at the continuation of the strife, resolved to single out the King of England, and, by slaying him, if possible, at once to terminate the contest. But Henry having foreseen some project tending to the same end, had clothed three valiant knights in similar manner to himself; and thus, when the Douglas, galloping hastily into the midst of the enemy's ranks with his drawn sword, encountered one after another, perplexed and astonished he exclaimed, "Where can all these kings come from!" At last, after killing Sir Walter Blount, the standard-bearer, he was on the point of felling the real King to the ground, when the brave Prince of Wales, rushing through the thickest of the fight, rescued his royal father from the perilous situation in which he was placed. The Douglas, however, continued to fight with unrelaxing bravery, till he was forsaken by his soldiers, and obliged to fly in order to preserve his life. He was unfortunately captured at this battle, but afterwards ransomed, and died whilst fighting against the Duke of Bedford, in the reign of Henry the Sixth. He was often heard to relate, in after life, the bewildering effect produced on him on that memorable day by the "Four Kings."

* The rightful heir to the throne on the death of Richard II. was Edmund Mortimer, Earl of March. Henry was therefore an usurper.

† July 9, *Strickland*.

HENRY V.*

PLANTAGENET.

Character—A brave and generous monarch ; his reign was glorious, and he retook all the English possessions in France conquered by Edward III.

Born . . . 1388.

Ascended the throne—March 20, 1412-13.

Principal events—The conquest of France ; Battles of Agincourt and Harfleur ; insurrection of the Lollards ; and death of Lord Cobham.

Possessions—England, Ireland, Wales, and France.

Married—Catherine of Valois.

Child—HENRY PRINCE OF WALES.† By Owen Tudor, Catherine afterwards had Edmund Earl of Richmond, and Jasper Earl of Pembroke.

Death of Henry—August 31, 1422.

Death of Catherine—January 3, 1437-8.

Parents— { Henry VI.
 { Mary de Bohun.

Age when he died—34.

ST. CRISPIN'S DAY.

THE Battle of Agincourt, so memorable both to the French nation and to ours, was over, and King Henry the Fifth, surrounded by his attendants, was surveying the field, when Montjoye, the French herald, approached them, and begged in the most humble manner, permission to bury the dead. "Many of our princes lie slain on the field," said he, "and we would fain inter them as Christians." "I grant your boon," answered the King ; "but tell me first to whom the victory belongs, and what is the name of the castle on yonder hill." "You, mighty Prince," returned the Herald, "you are the victor, and it is the castle of Agincourt that is before you." "Then henceforth this is called the Battle of Agincourt," continued Henry, "and let the French remember St. Crispin's Day!"

* The title of this King was of course as defective as that of his father, the rightful Monarch, Edmund, Earl of March, being still alive when Henry IV. died.

† This prince was only eight months old at the time of his father's death. He is called Prince of Wales by Sandford, but was never so created, and is generally omitted in the list of princes who have borne that title.

HENRY VI.

PLANTAGENET.

Character—Pious, gentle, and unfortunate; he was unable to rule a kingdom torn asunder by dissensions between himself and his cousin, Richard, Duke of York, grandson of Edmund, Duke of York, son of Edward III.

Born . . . December 6, 1421.

Ascended the throne—August 31, 1422.*

Principal events—The English expelled from France; the wars of the White and Red Roses; the battles of St. Albans, Wakefield and Mortimer's Cross; and the death of the Duke of York; caps and jewels were first worn in this reign.

Possessions—England, Ireland, Wales, and Calais.

Married—Margaret of Anjou.

Child—Edward Prince of Wales.

Murder of Henry—May 21, 1471.

Death of Margaret—August 25, 1482.†

Parents— { Henry V.
 { Catherine of Valois.

Age when he died—49.

THE BENEVOLENT ROBBER.

THE fate of this King, after a turbulent reign, was at length decided by the total defeat of himself and his adherents on the field of Hexham, when his cousin proved victorious. Margaret of Anjou, his Queen, and the young Prince of Wales, were stationed at the top of a hill to view the field of battle; but when they saw their partisans flying for safety, the former, taking the youthful Edward by the hand, sought refuge in a forest near the spot; where after being torn by the thickets, and suffering great distress, she was attacked by robbers, who, after taking from her all her jewels, and every insignia of royalty attached to her person, and disrobing the young Prince, left her to the mercy of the tempest. Whilst in this condition, she was again met by a single robber. Strengthened in the hour of need, the poor Queen made an effort to touch the man's heart, she threw herself and the child on his mercy, and presenting the Prince to him, said, "Here, my friend, I commit to thy care the safety of the heir to the throne of England: this is the Prince of Wales!" and the robber, won by her condescension, took her under his protection, and conveyed her in safety to France.

* It will always remain a vexed question as to whether this King's right to the throne was a good one or not. His own words when addressing his parliament were these: "My father was King, his father also was King; I have worn the crown from my cradle, you have all sworn fealty to me as your Sovereign, and your fathers have done the like to my fathers." All of which was quite true. At the same time it must be remembered that the Duke of York was the representative of Lionel the elder brother of John Duke of Lancaster, from whom Henry VI. descended, and consequently his (York's) claim, from an hereditary point of view, was the better of the two.

† 1481—*Strickland*.

EDWARD IV.

PLANTAGENET.

Character—Cruel in time of war, weak and effeminate in prosperity; he murdered his nearest relations, and rendered himself odious both to his friends and enemies: his person is described as having been handsome.

Born . . . April 29, 1441.

*Ascended the throne**—March 4, 1461.

Principal events—Battles of Towton, Hedgely-moor, Hexham, and Tewkesbury; the deaths of Henry VI., Edward his son, and the King's own brother George Duke of Clarence. The Art of Printing was first introduced in this reign.

Possessions—England, Ireland, Wales, and Calais.

Married—Elizabeth Lady Grey, daughter of Sir Richard Woodville, and widow of Sir John Grey.

Children—EDWARD PRINCE OF WALES, Richard Duke of York, George Duke of Bedford, Elizabeth Princess Royal afterwards Queen, Mary, Cicely (or Cecilia) Viscountess Wells, Margaret, Anne Duchess of Norfolk, Catherine Countess of Devonshire, and Bridget a Nun.†

Death of Edward—April 9, 1483.

Death of Elizabeth—1492.

Parents— $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Richard Duke of York, great-grandson of Edward} \\ \text{III.} \\ \text{Lady Cicely Nevill, sister to the Earl of Warwick.} \end{array} \right.$

Age when he died—41.

ROYAL CLEMENCY, AND LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT.

ONE of this King's favourite amusements was hunting: and one day, fatigued by the exertions of the chase, he alighted at the house of the Duchess of Bedford, where he saw the Lady Grey, widow of Sir John Grey, of Groby, who had been slain in a contest between the two parties of the White and Red Roses, and whose estates had been confiscated by the victors. She took the opportunity of throwing herself at his feet, and entreated his Royal favour for herself and her children. Edward, struck by her beauty and grace, listened willingly to her petition, showed the greatest interest in her behalf, and finally, irresistibly attracted by her charms, offered her his heart and a share of his throne.

* Edward IV. was undoubtedly the heir of Richard II. in the female line, owing to his descent from Lionel of Clarence, the next brother, (who left issue,) of Edward the Black Prince. On the death of Henry VI., in 1471, he became heir male of Richard II. as well.

† Sandford enumerates the daughters of Edward IV. thus:—1. Elizabeth. 2. Cecilia. 3. Anne. 4. Bridget. 5. Mary. 6. Margaret. 7. Catherine.

EDWARD V.

PLANTAGENET.

Character—His public character is unknown, considering the early age at which he came to the throne; his private one, as a child, seems to have been mild and gentle.

Born . . . November 4, 1470.

Ascended the throne—April 9, 1483.

Principal events—The Duke of Gloucester, brother to Edward IV., appointed Protector; Lords Rivers, Grey, and Hastings, beheaded; murders of the King and his brother.

Possessions—England, Ireland, Wales, and Calais.

Murdered—1483.*

Parents— } Edward IV.
 } Elizabeth widow of Sir John Grey.

Age when he died—12.

THE MIDNIGHT MURDER.

It was midnight, and silence reigned within and without the ancient and time-worn fortress of the Tower of London. The youthful King had long since retired to rest, and the only perceptible sound throughout that spacious building was the march of the sentinel as he paced to and fro on the ramparts, when a door at the end of a gallery, communicating with the Royal apartments, softly opened, and three men entered. The first and tallest was dressed in the rich and extravagant manner then prevalent among the nobles and officers of state; while the other two were more plainly clad, and, by their conversation, proved to be ruffians of no ordinary nature. They approached with stealthy steps towards the Royal sleeping chamber, and stopped under one of the low and projecting windows in the wall. The leader, (as the former appeared to be,) addressing the other two, in low tones, by the names of Dighton and Forrest, desired them to approach the couch on which the King and his brother, the young Duke of York, slept, to smother them, and, after showing the bodies to him, to bury them at the foot of the stone staircase at the end of the gallery: they obeyed, and entered the chamber of their King. At a slow and measured pace they drew near to the bed, and, seizing the pillows on which the Royal children were reclining, murdered the hapless innocents as they lay locked in each other's arms. Sir James Tyrrell, their instigator, after viewing the dead bodies, escaped quietly from the Tower, and hastened with the news of their death to the residence of the Protector, Richard Duke of Gloucester.

* Anderson gives as the date of Edward's murder, May 23, 1483, but this seems doubtful.

RICHARD III.*

PLANTAGENET—HOUSE OF GLOUCESTER.

Character—Barbarous and cruel, but wise in his government.†

Born . . . 1450.

Ascended the throne—June 26, 1483.

Principal events—The invasion of Henry Earl of Richmond, and the Battle of Bosworth Field.

Possessions—England, Ireland, Wales, and Calais.

Married—Anne daughter of the Earl of Warwick, widow of Edward son of Henry VI.

Child—Edward Prince of Wales, d. 1484.

Death of Richard—Aug. 22, 1485.

Death of Anne—March 16, 1484-5.

Parents—The same as Edward IV.

Age when he died—35.

THE KING'S HOLE.

HENRY, Earl of Richmond, proved such a dangerous enemy to the new King, that his every movement was necessarily watched. Richard ordered spies to be placed in all parts of his dominions, in order to discover, if possible, what were his intentions; and Richmond found himself, at length, obliged to give out that he was in France, in order to escape so much observation. But Richard, ever prone to suspicion, did not relax in his endeavours to detect his plans; and one day, Richmond being concealed in a public tavern, was drinking and talking merrily to his companions, when a stranger stepped in, and turned the conversation on the young Earl, alleging that he had seen Richmond, and should easily recognize him if he met him still lurking about England; upon which, Henry, judging it prudent to avoid such an unwelcome companion, managed to leave the room and escape out of the house by a back window, and through a hole, which to this day is called the King's Hole.

* Upon the deaths of Edward V. and his brother, the Duke of York, the rightful heiress to the throne was, of course, their sister Elizabeth. Besides which, Edward and Margaret, the children of the Duke of Clarence, both had a better claim than Richard, who was their father's younger brother. The last of the Plantagenet Kings, therefore, was an usurper.

† Since writing the above, the author has met with a very delightful work, in which all the charges against Richard III. are carefully investigated, and compared with the statements of the contemporary authorities, and in which the character of this King is exculpated from the crimes commonly laid to its charge. See Halsted's *Life of Richard III.*, and Horace Walpole's *Historic Doubts*.

HENRY VII.*

TUDOR.

Character—Able and economical; an unkind relation, and unfeeling enemy.

Born . . . 1455.

Ascended the throne—August 22, 1485.

Principal events—The insurrections of Lambert Simnel and Perkin Warbeck; the war with Scotland, together with the impositions and taxes enforced upon the people of England by Dudley and Empson, the King's agents.

Possessions—England, Ireland, Wales, and Calais.

Married—Elizabeth daughter of Edward IV.

Children—Arthur Prince of Wales, d. 1502, HENRY PRINCE OF WALES, Edmund Duke of Somerset, Margaret Queen of Scotland married secondly the Earl of Angus, Elizabeth, Mary Queen of France, married secondly the Duke of Suffolk, Katherine.

Death of Henry—April 21, 1509.

Death of Elizabeth—February 11, 1502-3.

Parents—

{	Edmund Earl of Richmond, son of Catherine,
	widow of Henry V.
{	Lady Margaret Beaufort, daughter of John Duke of Somerset.

Age when he died—54.

THE UNFORTUNATE PRINCE.

In one of the splendid apartments of an old Palace in Yorkshire sat Prince Edward Plantagenet, Earl of Warwick, only son of George Duke of Clarence, brother to the late King Edward IV. His head was resting in his hand, and he was absorbed in deep and sad reflections: the death of his parents when he was still young, the murders of his youthful cousins Edward V. and Richard Duke of York, and the present hazardous situation in which he himself was placed, (for it was in 1486, immediately after the Battle of Bosworth Field, but when the news had not reached the county of York,) formed objects of sad and mournful meditation to a contemplative mind, when the door of the chamber in which he was seated was burst violently open, and he was instantly surrounded by armed men. Astonished and indignant, he demanded their business, reprimanding them at the same time for entering his presence unannounced. "You are no longer master here," was the reply; "the Usurper is slain; and his present Majesty has commanded us to arrest you and take you with us to London, there to confine you within the fortress of the Tower:" and before he could offer the slightest resistance, the noble youth was roughly seized and conveyed to a litter, in which he departed to the metropolis. And this was the first exercise of power made by Henry the Seventh on his accession to the British throne.

* Strictly speaking, Henry had no right whatever to the throne, save as the husband of Elizabeth, the sister and heir of Edward V. He insisted, however, upon reigning himself; and only allowed her the dignity of Queen Consort.

HENRY VIII.

TUDOR.

Character—Tyrannical and cruel, although his education had been carefully attended to, and when he came to the throne he seemed a youth of promise.

Born . . . June 28, 1491.

Ascended the throne—April 21, 1509.

Principal events—The executions of Dudley and Empson; the war with France; Wolsey's rise and fall; the (so-called) Reformation; Henry's conduct towards his wives; and the executions of Sir Thomas More, the Duke of Buckingham, Cromwell Earl of Essex, Margaret Countess of Salisbury, the Earl of Surrey, and many others.

Possessions—England, Ireland, Wales, and Calais.

Married—Catherine of Arragon, Anne Boleyn, Jane Seymour, Anne of Cleves, Catherine Howard, and Catherine Parr.

Children—*Henry Duke of Cornwall*, d. 1509, a Son, and Mary Princess Royal, by Catherine of Arragon; Elizabeth and a Son by Anne Boleyn; EDWARD DUKE OF CORNWALL by Jane Seymour.

Death of Henry—January 28, 1546-7.

Death of Catherine of Arragon—January 7, 1535-6.

Death of Anne Boleyn—May 19, 1536.

Death of Jane Seymour—October 14, 1537.

Death of Anne of Cleves—July 17, 1557.

Death of Catherine Howard—February 13, 1541-2.

Death of Catherine Parr—September 5, 1548.

Parents— { Henry VII.
 { Elizabeth, daughter of Edward IV.

Age when he died—55.

THE ROYAL CHALLENGE.

DURING the entertainment given at the court of France in honour of this King's visit to Francis I., 1520, a tournament was held, at which both monarchs were present; and after several knights had broken their lances with each other, Henry rode up to Francis, and, tapping him on the shoulder, exclaimed, "Come, brother, you and I must try our skill:" upon which challenge the latter wheeled round, and being far the strongest and most agile of the two, soon brought his adversary to the ground, who affected to treat the occurrence as a jest at the time, but who remembered it long after as an insult, and revenged it as such.

EDWARD VI.

TUDOR.

Character—A learned Prince, of a naturally amiable although weak disposition.

Born . . . Octóber 12, 1537.

Ascended the throne—January 28, 1546-7.

Principal events—The war with Scotland; battle of Pinkie; John Dudley Earl of Warwick (son of that Dudley who was beheaded in Henry's reign) created Duke of Northumberland; war with France; executions of the King's uncles Lord Seymour and the Duke of Somerset, (Protector); and the succession changed.

Possessions—England, Ireland, Wales, and Calais.

Death—July 6, 1553.

Parents— { Henry VIII.
 { Jane Seymour.

Age when he died—15.

TRUE PLEASURE.

THE amiable and accomplished Lady Jane Grey, when young, showed an extraordinary talent for study, (considering the times in which she lived,) and the following little anecdote will tend to prove the inclination which her mind had for learning:—

One day Roger Ascham, preceptor to the Princess Elizabeth (sister of Edward VI., and afterwards Queen), being on his way to Germany, resolved to visit the noble Lady Jane Grey before his final departure from England; and arriving at Bradgate, in Leicestershire, he found her perusing Phædon Platonis, in Greek: on asking her why she rather preferred reading in her own chamber to hunting in the park with her noble father and mother, she answered, "Methinks all their sport in the park is but a shadow to that pleasure that I find in Plato. Alas, good folk! they never felt what true pleasure meant!"

M A R Y I.

TUDOR.

Character—Brave, pious, and resolute. Her faults were those of her advisers ; her virtues were her own.

Born . . . February 8, 1515-16.

Ascended the throne—July 6, 1553.*

Principal events—Re-establishment of the Catholic religion ; executions of the Dukes of Northumberland and Suffolk, together with the Lady Jane and Lord Guilford Dudley ; insurrection of Sir Thomas Wyatt, and the loss of Calais.

Possessions—England, Ireland, and Wales.

Married—Philip II., King of Spain.

Death of Mary—Nov. 17, 1558.

Death of Philip—September 13, 1598.

Parents— { Henry VIII.
 { Catherine of Arragon.

Age when she died—42.

A QUEENLY HARANGUE.

No Sovereign of England has been more cruelly maligned and misrepresented in order to pander to popular prejudice than this Queen. Modern research, however, and a fearless determination to state the truth, on the part of historical writers, have of late years done much to clear her memory of the stains unjustly laid upon it ; nor are persons in the present day, thank God, so ready as formerly, to give Mary the First credit for every bad and odious quality, merely because she was a Catholic ! That she was possessed of an undaunted courage, and a right queenly spirit in moments of danger, the following anecdote will show. All London was in consternation, owing to the intelligence that Sir Thomas Wyatt was approaching at the head of 15,000 men in open rebellion against his Sovereign. The only person who exhibited presence of mind, or seemed to know what was to be done was Queen Mary. She gave the necessary directions for the defence of the City, and of the Tower in case of an attack, and then proceeding to Guildhall, where a large number of the people had assembled, she thus addressed them, "Pluck up your hearts, good subjects ! Like true men, stand fast by your lawful Sovereign against these rebels, and fear them not ; for I do not, I assure you !" Astonished and delighted by the resolution to defend her crown and rights which these words displayed, the people responded with enthusiasm, and shouts of "God bless your Majesty ! Long live Queen Mary !" rent the air.

* Upon the death of King Edward VI., his cousin, Lady Jane Dudley, was proclaimed Queen, and reigned ten days. .

. ELIZABETH.

TUDOR.

Character—A bold and enterprising Queen ; vain, avaricious, jealous, and revengeful, in her private character.

Born . . . September 7, 1533.

Ascended the throne—November 17, 1558.

Principal events—Excommunication of Elizabeth by the Pope, persecution of the Catholics ; the imprisonment and execution of her lovely and innocent rival, Mary Queen of Scots ; the defeat of the Spanish Armada ; the Earls of Leicester and Essex, Sir Francis Drake, Sir Philip Sidney, and Shakespeare flourished.

Possessions—England, Ireland, and Wales.

Death of Elizabeth—March 24, 1602-3.

Parents—{ Henry VIII.
 { Anne Boleyn.

Age when she died—69.

“CRUEL ELIZABETH.”

THE 8th of February, 1587, at length dawned, and the lovely and innocent Mary Queen of Scots mounted the scaffold erected in the hall of Fotheringay,* which was hung with black. Sir Amias Paulet stood on her right, and her old and faithful servant, Andrew Melvil, together with several of her female attendants,† were on her left. Two executioners were stationed by the block, but it was with a calm and resigned air that she beheld them. She maintained her fortitude to the last ; and after presenting several small tokens of friendship to her sorrowing companions, she laid her head on the block and submitted to her fate. And thus perished one whose sufferings, beauty, and accomplishments, will for ever render her lamented by all who cherish her memory, and the circumstances of whose death will always be a dark and ineffaceable blot on the character of Queen Elizabeth.

* Fotheringay was built by Edmund Langley Duke of York, fifth son of Edward III., and was the birthplace of Richard III.

† In St. Andrew's kirk, at Antwerp, is an original portrait of Mary, Queen of Scots : it may be seen affixed to a tablet there in memory of a Lady of the House of Seaton who was present at this execution.

JAMES I.

STUART.

Character—Mean, selfish, and vain ; he seems to have possessed an odd mixture of both good and bad qualities, but it is generally believed that the latter were predominant.

Born . . . June 19, 1566.

Ascended the throne—March 24, 1602-3.

Principal events—The Gunpowder Plot ;* Sir Walter Raleigh executed ; the Earls of Salisbury, Somerset, and Villiers Duke of Buckingham, and Lord Chancellor Bacon flourished.

Possessions—England, Ireland, Wales and Scotland.

Married—The Princess Anne of Denmark.

Children—*Henry Prince of Wales*, d. 1612, *Robert*, CHARLES PRINCE OF WALES, Elizabeth Princess Royal afterwards Queen of Bohemia, *Margaret*, *Mary*, *Sophia*.

Death of James—March 27, 1625.

Death of Anne—March 2, 1618-19.

Parents—

{	Henry Lord Darnley.
	Mary Queen of Scotland, grand-daughter of Margaret, sister of Henry VIII.

Age when he died—58.

THE SHARP MEDICINE.

On the 29th October, 1618, the famous and unfortunate Sir Walter Raleigh was led to the block. After being imprisoned in the Tower of London for many years he had, through the influence of Villiers the King's favourite, been liberated and entrusted with the command of an expedition to Guiana. But the undertaking proved a failure, and Raleigh returned in disgrace to England. He was arrested on his arrival, and although he contrived once more to escape, he was eventually taken prisoner and brought back to the Tower, and the old sentence against him, which had never really been repealed, was carried out.

On mounting the scaffold, he felt the edge of the axe, and said, "It is a sharp medicine, but a cure for all ills." Then kneeling down he gave a signal to the executioner to strike. The man however hesitated, and Raleigh exclaimed, "Why dost thou not strike?—strike man!" With the second blow, his head was severed from his body.

* A conspiracy formed by a few misguided persons and for which the Catholics as a body were unfairly blamed—in consequence of which they suffered greater persecutions than before.

CHARLES I.

STUART.

Character—Charles I. as a private man was blameless, but his political errors cost him his throne and his life.

Born . . . November 19, 1600.

Ascended the throne—March 27, 1625.

Principal events—THE GREAT REBELLION, occasioned principally by the exaction of taxes without the authority of Parliament; the Battles of Edgehill, Devizes, Chalgrave, Newbury, Marston Moor, Naseby, &c.; Princes Rupert and Maurice, Fairfax, Cromwell, Essex, and Montrose flourished.

Possessions—England, Ireland, Wales, and Scotland.

Married—The Princess Henrietta Maria of France.

Children—*Charles Duke of Cornwall*, d. 1628, CHARLES PRINCE OF WALES, James Duke of York, afterwards King James II., Henry Duke of Gloucester, Mary Princess Royal, afterwards Princess of Orange, Elizabeth, *Anne*, *Catherine*, and Henrietta Maria Duchess of Orleans.*

Murder of Charles—January 30, 1648-9.

Death of Henrietta Maria—August 10,† 1669.

Parents— { James I.
 { Anne of Denmark.

Age when he died—48.

INFANT COURAGE.

AFTER a turbulent reign of several years, this King was overpowered by the superior forces of his enemies, and imprisoned in St. James's Palace previous to his execution, where the only comfort afforded him was an interview with two of his children, Henry (afterwards Duke of Gloucester,) and the Princess Elizabeth. To the latter he gave in charge a message to the Queen, telling her that his attachment towards her had never wavered, and that she would ever be dearest to him on earth; to the former he gravely said, placing him on his knee, "Mark my words, my child: they will cut off my head, and when I am dead they will want perhaps to make thee King: but thou must not be King as long as thy brothers Charles and James are alive,—therefore I charge thee, do not be made King by them!" to which the noble child replied that he would sooner be torn in pieces, which answer brought tears of admiration and love into Charles's eyes.

* By some authorities called "Henrietta Anne."

† August 31—*Strickland*.

INTERREGNUM
OF
OLIVER CROMWELL*

Character—Unscrupulous and ambitious. He possessed an iron will and great ability. Having slain his Master he became King in all excepting name, but he was never a happy or a satisfied man.

Born . . . April 25, 1599.†

Became Protector—December 12, 1653.

Principal events—The battles of Dunbar and Worcester; the escape of King Charles to France, aided by Jane Lane and her brother; the wars with Holland and Spain; and sitting of the Barebone parliament.

Married—Elizabeth, daughter of Sir James Bouchier, Kt.

Children—*Robert, Oliver*, RICHARD afterwards Protector, Henry, James, Bridget, married 1st to General Ireton, and 2ndly to General Fleetwood, Elizabeth Mrs. Claypole, Mary Lady Fauconberg, and Frances Lady Rich.

Death—September 3, 1658.

Parents—{ Robert Cromwell, Esq.
{ Elizabeth, daughter of William Stewart, Esq.

Age when he died—59.

THE SPY.

THE conduct of Oliver Cromwell was fraught with cunning, as the following anecdote will show:—

Through the means of his spies, which he placed in every part of the kingdom, Cromwell discovered that Charles was about to convey a letter to his Queen, concealed in the flap of a saddle, by a man who would depart for Dover from the Blue Boar Inn, Holborn. Accordingly, accompanied by General Ireton, he repaired to that inn at ten o'clock at night, on the day on which the messenger was to leave for the continent, and sat drinking beer with some common soldiers until he arrived. Then they opened the saddle, took out the letter, and replaced it on the horse's back, before the man was even aware of his loss. Cromwell thus discovered the King's intentions, and from that moment resolved on his destruction.

* Oliver Cromwell, although no King, is inserted in this work in order to preserve the line of government.

† *L'art de Vérifier les Dates* gives April 3, 1603, as the date of Cromwell's birth, which would make him 55 years of age at the time of his death.

CHARLES II.

STUART.

Character—He possessed a good disposition and a good temper ; but his court was a most immoral one, and he himself by his conduct gave great scandal to the nation.

Born . . . May 29, 1630.

Restored to the throne—May 29, 1660.

Principal events—War with Holland ; the Great Plague ; the fire of London ; and the executions of Lords Stafford and William Russell, of Algernon Sidney, and the regicides Harrison, Peters, and Vane.

Possessions—England, Wales, Ireland, and Scotland.

Married—The Princess Catherine of Braganza.

Death of Charles—February 6, 1684-5.

Death of Catherine—December 31, 1705.

Parents— { Charles I.
 { Henrietta Maria of France.

Age when he died—54.

JANE LANE.

AFTER the battle of Worcester, in 1651, Charles the Second took refuge at Bentley Hall, in Staffordshire, the seat of Colonel Lane, one of his Majesty's most devoted adherents, and there, in a cavity beneath the floor of an upper room, the Royal fugitive was concealed during occasional moments of alarm. This hiding-place is still to be seen ; and if the reader will let his imagination carry him back to that perilous period when the lawful Monarch of our realms was hunted like the doomed deer, a scene of no common interest will be presented to his mind. A lovely maiden, with fair hair clustering round her neck, has fixed her bright blue eyes, in earnest gaze, on the noble youth who is reclining in a corner of the chamber, and ever and anon she seems startled by some distant sound, which may bespeak the approach of foes, but proves to be the rapid tread of the no less timid deer, who is hastening from one spot of shelter to another, or the falling leaf, which touches the casement ere it reaches the earth. Hers are indeed anxious watchings, and well fitted is the loyal heart of this high-bred damsel for her charge ; for, under the protection of this very Jane Lane,* Charles Stuart, in the character and garb of her "serving man," escaped in safety to the coast, riding on a pillion, as was the fashion in those days. When, shortly after this exciting period, the lady fled to France, her Royal master evinced his gratitude and respect by hastening—in company with the Queen his mother, and the Dukes of York and Gloucester, who also came to meet the preserver of their son, sovereign, and brother—to welcome her whom he emphatically styled "his dearest life."

* The present family of Lane, of King's Bromley, co. Stafford, the lineal descendants of the loyalists of that period, have the privilege of bearing the Royal Arms of England, in a canton, and had the crest of a demi-horse supporting the Royal crown, bestowed upon them.

JAMES II.

STUART.

Character—A well-intentioned but ill-advised Prince. Had he possessed more resolution and judgment, he need never have lost his Crown.

Born . . . October 14, 1633.

Ascended the throne—February 6, 1684-5.

Principal events—Rebellion and execution of James Duke of Monmouth ; wicked conduct of Judge Jefferies ; landing of William Prince of Orange, at Torbay ; and THE REVOLUTION of 1688.

Possessions—England, Ireland, Wales, and Scotland.

Married—The Lady Anne Hyde, and the Princess Mary Beatrice of Modena.

Children—Charles Duke of Cambridge, Mary Princess of Orange, James Duke of Cambridge, Anne Princess of Denmark, Charles Duke of Kendal, Edgar Duke of Cambridge, Henrietta, and Katherine by Lady Anne Hyde, Laura, Isabella, Charles Duke of Cambridge, Catherine Laura, Isabella, Charlotte Mary, James Francis Edward Prince of Wales (sometimes called JAMES III.), and Louisa, by the Princess Mary Beatrice.

Death of James—September 6 (or 16), 1701.

Death of Anne—March 31, 1671.

Death of Mary Beatrice—May 8, 1718.

Age when he died—67.

Parents—The same as Charles II.

THE ESCAPE.

DURING the imprisonment of his father, King James the Second (then Duke of York) was permitted to visit him at Hampton Court, and during their conversation Charles told him that, as he was old enough to keep a secret, he would tell him one : namely, that Colonel Bamfield, a devoted royalist, was about to aid him in an escape from England, and that he must obey without hesitation any movement which Bamfield dictated. James then returned to London, and was committed by the parliament into custody, with his sister, the Princess Elizabeth, in St. James's Palace. The Colonel, however, soon found means to let him know that all was ready, and the Duke, who was playing with the Princess in a chamber, the door of which communicated with the garden, watching his opportunity, ran without hat or cloak into the road, where Bamfield was awaiting him ; and, immediately changing his dress for that of a woman, they embarked on board a vessel bound for Holland, and crossed the seas in safety.

WILLIAM III. AND MARY II.

ORANGE.

Characters—William was a bad man, and owed his success entirely to the fact of his being a Protestant. Mary was a good wife, but an unnatural daughter.

Births . . . William, November 14, 1650 ; Mary, April 30, 1662.

Ascended the throne—February 13, 1688.

Principal events—The Battles of Killcrankie and Boyne ; the Massacre of Glencoe ; the war with France ; and death of King James II.

Possessions—England, Ireland, Wales, and Scotland,—Orange, and Holland.

Death of William—March 8, 1701-2.

Death of Mary—December 28,* 1694.

Parents of William { William Prince of Orange.
Mary, eldest daughter of Charles I.

Parents of Mary { James II.
Lady Anne Hyde.

Ages when they died—51 and 32.

PRIVATE AND ROYAL PASTIMES.†

AN amusing anecdote is recorded by Pepys (that famous and minute historian of the 17th century) of King James II. and his lovely Queen, Mary of Modena, when Duke and Duchess of York : viz., that one day, having intruded unintentionally into one of the Royal apartments in Whitehall, he was much confused and amazed at discovering the august heir-presumptive and his beauteous bride seated on the hearth-rug, (the chairs and tables having been put aside,) in company with several ladies, and busily playing at the old Christmas game of "I love my love with an A," &c., with great glee and spirit. No doubt the lovely poetess, Anne Kingsmill,‡ the Duchess's favourite companion, lent her powers in "sportive spirit" on such occasions, and many a silvery sound of merriment was echoed through the lofty chambers of Whitehall during those days of comparative joy and tranquillity to the Royal pair whose fates in after years were so hapless.

* Dec. 21.—*Sandford*.

† As William and Mary were Usurpers, the author has here taken the liberty of inserting an anecdote which ought to be subjoined to the reign of James II., the rightful Monarch.

‡ Pope's "Ardelia," maid of honour to the Queen, afterwards married to Lord Winchelsea.

A N N E.

STUART.

Character—Mild, simple, and good-natured.

Born . . . February 6, 1664.

*Ascended the throne**—March 8, 1701-2.

Principal events—War with France; Battles of Blenheim, Ramillies, Oudenarde, and Malplaquet; the Duke of Marlborough, Harley Earl of Oxford, and St. John Viscount Bolingbroke flourished.

Possessions—Great Britain and Ireland.

Married—Prince George of Denmark.

Children—*A Princess, Mary, Anne Sophia, William Duke of Gloucester, d. 1700, Mary, George.*

Death of Queen Anne—August 1, 1714.

Death of Prince George—October 28, 1708.

Parents—The same as Mary II.

Age when she died—50.

GENEROUS CONDUCT.†

THE famous and never-to-be-forgotten John Churchill, Duke of Marlborough, flourished during the reign of this Queen, and the following anecdote will serve to show how great was his command of temper, and how prudent and generous his conduct:

One day, Prince Eugene of Savoy, who had joined him in all his undertakings, proposed a council of war, and then urged the Duke to make an attack on the enemy the next day: the Duke declined his proposition, and the Prince, in a rage, challenged him to single combat; the Duke calmly refused, and the exasperated Eugene angrily left the council. The next morning Marlborough awoke him from a sound sleep, and desired him to rise, saying he was about to storm the city,—and then explained that the reason why he had refused to make an attack the preceding night was, that he had ascertained that a secret enemy was present; adding, that he was now ready to accept his challenge. The Prince, after warmly thanking him for having preserved his honour, and affectionately embracing him, swore eternal friendship.

* Upon the death of King James II. at St. Germain's, his son, the Prince of Wales, was at once acknowledged as King of England by Louis XIV. It is always supposed that if her father had survived William III., Queen Anne would never have accepted the Crown.

† The conduct of Marlborough, in the earlier part of his career, towards his friend and benefactor, King James II., was neither generous nor grateful. His character, therefore, seems to have improved with his later years.

GEORGE I.

BRUNSWICK.

Character—Cold, sagacious, and selfish; neither prepossessing in appearance, nor pleasing in his manners.

Born . . . May 28, 1660.

Ascended the throne—August 1, 1714.

Principal events—Rising in Scotland in favour of James, son of James II.; Battles of Preston and Sheriff Muir; executions of Lords Derwentwater and Kenmuir; and failure of the South Sea scheme.

Possessions—England, Ireland, Wales, Hanover, Brunswick, &c.

Married—The Princess Sophia Dorothea of Zell.

Children—GEORGE PRINCE OF WALES, Sophia Queen of Prussia.

Death of King George—June '11, 1727.

Death of Queen Sophia Dorothea—November 2, 1726.

Parents—

{	Ernest Augustus, Elector of Hanover.
	Sophia, granddaughter of James I., through Elizabeth Queen of Bohemia.

Age when he died—67.

DISAPPOINTED LOVE.

GEORGE AUGUSTUS, Prince of Wales, only son of King George I., when he came of age, had a very great desire once again to behold his beautiful mother, the unfortunate Sophia Dorothea, Princess of Zell, from whom he had been separated ever since his childhood. Accordingly having arrived before the barriers of the gloomy fortress in which she was confined, he swam his horse across the river, passed the outer moat, and was on the point of entering the Castle, when he was met by the Governor and forced to retire.

GEORGE II.

BRUNSWICK.

Character—Bad in private, and in public distinguished like his father by his preference for Hanover and his Hanoverian subjects, above England and his English ones.

Born . . . October 30, 1683.

Ascended the throne—June 11, 1727.

Principal events—War with France, Battles of Dettingen and Fontenoy; Prince Charles Edward Stuart, grandson of James II., declared Regent in Scotland. Battle of Culloden; executions of Lords Balmorino, Kilmarnoch, and others; Battle of Quebec, and death of General Wolfe.

Possessions—England, Ireland, Wales, Hanover, Brunswick, Canada, &c., &c.

Married—The Princess Caroline of Anspach.

Children—*Frederick Prince of Wales*, d. 1751, *Anne Princess Royal*, afterwards *Princess of Orange*, *Amelia*, *Caroline*, *George William*, *William Duke of Cumberland*, *Mary Princess of Hesse Cassel*, *Louisa Queen of Denmark*.

Death of King George—October 25, 1760.

Death of Queen Caroline—November 20, 1737.

Parents— { George I.
 { Princess Sophia Dorothea of Zell.

Age when he died—76.

THE SPARTAN ADDRESS.

PRINCE CHARLES EDWARD STUART, the last heir male of his unfortunate family (with the exception of his brother Henry, Cardinal of York, who died in 1807), after many and repeated sufferings, at length arrived, accompanied by a small party of followers, before the gates of an ancient castle, where the mistress, Lady Douglas, kindly received them; and, as a further proof of devotion towards the Royal cause, on his departure she presented to him her two sons, with the following Spartan address:—"Here, please your Highness, are my two sons; take them; and if they do not do their duty, hang them on the first tree."

GEORGE III.

BRUNSWICK.

Character—Amiable and benevolent. During the latter years of his life he was afflicted with insanity, to the great grief of a people to whom he had endeared himself by many excellent qualities.

Born . . . June 4 (24 May, old style), 1738.

Ascended the throne—October 25, 1760.

Principal events—The wars with France, Spain, and America ; Battles of Copenhagen, the Nile, and Trafalgar, the Peninsular War, and Battle of Waterloo ; Regency of the Prince of Wales ; Pitt, Fox, Perceval, Castlereagh, Nelson, and Wellington flourished.

Possessions—Great Britain, Ireland, Hanover, Brunswick, &c., &c.

Married—The Princess Charlotte Sophia of Mecklenburgh Strelitz.

Children—GEORGE PRINCE OF WALES, afterwards REGENT, Frederick Duke of York, *d.* 1827, William Duke of Clarence, afterwards King William IV., Charlotte Princess Royal, afterwards Queen of Württemberg, *d.* 1828, *Edward Duke of Kent*, *d.* 1820, Augusta, *d.* 1840, Elizabeth Landgravine of Hesse Homburg, *d.* 1840, Ernest Duke of Cumberland, afterwards King of Hanover, *d.* 1851, Augustus Duke of Sussex, *d.* 1843, Adolphus Duke of Cambridge, *d.* 1850, Mary Duchess of Gloucester, *d.* 1857, Sophia, *d.* 1848, *Octavius*, *d.* 1783, *Alfred*, *d.* 1782, *Amelia*, *d.* 1810.

Death of King George—January 29, 1820.

Death of Queen Charlotte—November 17, 1818.

Parents— { Frederick Prince of Wales.
 { Princess Augusta of Saxe Gotha.

Age when he died—81.

TRUST IN PROVIDENCE.

AN instance of the entire reliance on the Almighty, which our late most gracious and beloved Sovereign ever testified, is recorded by an historian of undoubted credit.

The King, attended by several persons and gentlemen of the Court, was one day taking the air in his coach, by driving round the Park, when suddenly a shot was fired into the carriage. The greatest consternation among the retinue instantly ensued, whilst he alone was tranquil and undisturbed: "Do you forget," said he, "that whilst one is supposing that, and another is proposing this, there is ONE above everything, and on Whom alone we depend, Who disposes all things!"

GEORGE IV.

BRUNSWICK.

Character—A wise monarch and discreet statesman ; his personal appearance was prepossessing, and his manners captivating.

Born . . . August 12, 1762.

Ascended the throne—January 29, 1820.

Principal events—The Cato Street Conspiracy ; the trial and death of Queen Caroline ; the King's visits to Scotland and Ireland ; the deaths of the Duke of York and Mr. Canning ; the enactment of CATHOLIC EMANCIPATION ; and the building of New London Bridge.

Possessions—Great Britain, Ireland, Hanover, Brunswick, Hindostan, &c. &c.

Married—The Princess Caroline of Brunswick.

Child—*The Princess Charlotte*, b. January 7, 1796, m. May 2, 1816, Prince Leopold of Saxe Coburg Saalfeld, afterwards King of the Belgians, and d. November 6, 1817.

Death of King George—June 26, 1830.

Death of Queen Caroline—August 7, 1821.

Parents— { George III.
 { Princess Charlotte of Mecklenburgh Strelitz.

Age when he died—67.

THE WEeping WILLOW.

It was during the reign of this Sovereign that two foreign potentates, namely, Bonaparte of France and Alexander of Russia, breathed their last. The former expired at St. Helena, where no lofty monument was erected as a memento of his glory, but a simple weeping willow marked the unostentatious grave. It is a remarkable fact that a cutting from this very tree is at present flourishing in the gardens of Walmer Castle, for many years the country residence of our conquering hero—the great Wellington.

WILLIAM IV.

BRUNSWICK.

Character—By his universal benevolence he rendered himself beloved by his subjects, and respected by all.

Born . . . August 21, 1765.

Ascended the throne—June 26, 1830.

Principal events—Passing of the Reform Bill ; and the Abolition of Slavery in the Colonies.

Possessions—Great Britain, Ireland, Hanover, Brunswick, Hindostan, Guiana, Canada, &c.

Married—The Princess Adelaide of Saxe Meiningen.

Children—*Princess Charlotte Augusta Louisa*, b. and d. March 27, 1819 ; *Princess Elizabeth Georgiana Adelaide*, b. December 10, 1820, and d. March 4, 1821.

Death of King William—June 20, 1837.

Death of Queen Adelaide—December 2, 1849.

Parents—The same as George IV.

Age when he died—71.

THE REBUKE.

It is recorded of our late patriotic and amiable Sovereign, when Prince William Henry, and a Captain in the Royal navy, that, as he was one day overtaken by the rain, and obliged to seek refuge in a farm-house, (Torwood, in Devonshire,) he encountered a young gentleman, who had also been compelled to take shelter under the same roof. Full of mistaken ideas of superiority, both in birth and manners, this foolish youth treated the hospitable farmer and his family with marks of contempt and derision ; upon which the Prince turned to him, exclaiming, " Know, young man, that if you wish to be a sailor, you must alter your behaviour, and learn to be respectful to all mankind, especially to those to whom you are indebted for a shelter from the storm." Then, addressing the farmer, he thanked him for having offered him so acceptable a refuge from the raging of the elements, and continued in pleasant conversation with his family until the sun once more shot forth its golden rays.

VICTORIA.

BRUNSWICK.

Character—All that is virtuous, noble, and gracious, seems to be at once centred in our present amiable and beloved Queen.

Born . . . May 24, 1819.

Ascended the throne—June 20, 1837.

Principal events—Wars with China and Afghanistan ; passing of the Maynooth and Free Trade bills ; the Queen's visits to Scotland, France, and Germany ; death and public funeral of the Duke of Wellington ; the Crimean war ; the mutiny in India, and massacre of Cawnpore ; restoration of the CATHOLIC HIERARCHY by Pius IX. ; the international exhibitions of 1851 and 1862 ; and the death of the Prince Consort.

Possessions—Great Britain, Ireland, Australia, Hindostan, Canada, &c., &c.

Married—February 10, 1840, His Royal Highness Prince Francis ALBERT Augustus Charles Emanuel, of Saxe Coburg and Gotha, *b.* August 26, 1819 ; PRINCE CONSORT, who *d.*, universally lamented, Dec. 14, 1861.

Children—1. Victoria Adelaide Mary Louisa Princess Royal, *b.* Nov. 21, 1840 ; *m.* Jan. 25, 1858, Frederick William, Crown Prince of Prussia.
2. ALBERT EDWARD PRINCE OF WALES, *b.* Nov. 9, 1841 ; *m.* March 10, 1863, the Princess Alexandra of Denmark.
3. Princess Alice Maud Mary, *b.* April 25, 1843 ; *m.* July 1, 1862, Prince Louis of Hesse.
4. Alfred Ernest Albert, Duke of Edinburgh, *b.* August 6, 1844.
5. Princess Helena Augusta Victoria, *b.* May 25, 1846 ; *m.* July 5, 1866, Prince Christian of Schleswig Holstein.
6. Princess Louise Caroline Alberta, *b.* March 18, 1848.
7. Prince Arthur William Patrick Albert, *b.* May 1, 1850.
8. Prince Leopold George Duncan Albert, *b.* April 7, 1853.
9. Princess Beatrice Mary Victoria Feodore, *b.* April 14, 1857.

VICTORIA.—*continued.*

Parents— { Edward Duke of Kent, *d.* Jan. 23, 1820.
Victoria Mary Louisa Princess of Saxe Coburg
Saalfeld, widow of the Prince of Leiningen, *d.*
March 16, 1861.

THE NATION'S PRAYER.

God save the Queen.

A
CHRONOLOGICAL SKETCH
OF THE
KINGS OF FRANCE;
FROM
THE ACCESSION OF HUGH CAPET TO THE
PRESENT TIME.

With Anecdotes.

FOR THE USE OF CHILDREN.



BY

H. M. L.

AUTHOR OF "CHRONOLOGICAL SKETCHES OF THE KINGS OF ENGLAND."

NEW EDITION.

"It is the peculiar duty of the historian to preserve for future admiration the virtues which adorned, and to consign to eternal desecration the vices which disgraced the periods on which he treats."

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Dedicated

BY PERMISSION

TO

THE HONOURABLE LADY SIMEON.

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A CHRONOLOGICAL SKETCH,

ETC.

HUGH CAPE T.

CAPET.

Character—Of a reckless ambition and great personal courage, he maintained with prudence the throne to which he had been raised more from the volatile disposition of the French than from any just claims of his own.

Born . . . 939.

Ascended the throne—July 3, 987.

Principal events—The insurrection of Charles, Duke of Lorraine; the siege of Laon, together with the capture, imprisonment, and death of the last of the Carolingians.

Possessions—France.

Married—Adelaide of England, and Alice of Aquitaine.

Children—ROBERT, CROWN PRINCE, Haderwindis, Alice, and Goslinda, by Queen Alice.

Death of Hugh—October 24, 996.

Death of Alice—989.

Parents { Hugh the Great, Duke of France;
 { Adelaide of Germany.

Age when he died—57.

THE REPARTEE.

DURING this reign the kingly power and possessions were much encroached upon by the turbulent nobles and their lawless adherents. The following anecdote will serve to show how presumptuous was their daring, and how (comparatively speaking) insignificant the royal authority.

One day, whilst entertaining a goodly company in his palace hall, Hugh approached the Lord de Talmont, an arrogant and self-created noble, and smilingly enquired, as he laid his hand on his shoulder, "who made him a count?" to which the other audaciously replied, "Pray, and who made you a king?" Now, as the election of this Prince to the throne had been merely owing to his popularity in the nation whilst Duke of France, and as this very man had been in no small degree instrumental to his advancement, it was a question to which Hugh could not easily reply.

ROBERT THE PIOUS.

CAPET.

Character—Naturally possessed of a good disposition, and inclined to justice and clemency; he would have made an excellent monarch, had not a lamentable degree of weakness pervaded all his actions.

Born . . . 973.

Ascended the throne—October 24, 996.

Principal events—The King's divorce from Bertha of Burgundy, and their excommunication; the preaching of the first Crusade; the siege of Auxerre; and acquisition of Burgundy.

Possessions—France.

Married—Rosule of Italy, Bertha of Burgundy, and Constance of Toulouse.

Children—*Hugh, Crown Prince, d.* September 17, 1026,
HENRY, CROWN PRINCE, Robert, Eudo, Adela,
and Adelaide, by Queen Constance.

Death of Robert—July 20, 1032.

Death of Bertha—1016.

Death of Constance—July, 1033.

Parents— { Hugh Capet;
 { Alice of Aquitaine.

Age when he died—59.

THE SILVER LANCE.

"AND now, I entreat you, my Lord, respect my last admonition, and be careful of this beautiful lance: do not part with it on any account, and beware lest it fall into the hands of a courtier!"* The royal equipage was in waiting to convey the Queen to her own country of Languedoc; and, anxious that Robert should retain some token of her duty and affection whilst absent, she presented him, at the last moment, with a magnificent lance, decorated with various devices, and handsomely embroidered with silver tissue and flowers.

For some days the King was mindful of his wife's request, and her gift was duly secreted and cared for. At length, one morning, as he was going to mass, carrying it in his hand, he chanced to espy "a ragged-looking man," sinking from fatigue, and with a countenance on which pain and hunger were visibly written. The tender-hearted monarch, touched with compassion, beckoned him to approach; and then retiring to a private apartment, he proceeded to strip the lance of all its ornaments, and thrusting them into the beggar's wallet, told him to go and complain no more.

Some time after the Queen returned, and one of her first enquiries was respecting the lance. "Alas!" returned the monarch timidly, "I fear it was unworthily bestowed;" at the same time holding up the stripped pole to view. "What!" exclaimed Constance, in a violent passion, "you do not mean to say that you have discarded my gift!" "It is even so," returned Robert, "but having devoted it to charitable purposes, I do not regret it." He then explained the circumstances, and thus appeased her wrath.

* This epithet was used in contempt by the Queen, owing to her dislike to the numerous *thieves* and *beggars* who thronged the courts of the palace.

HENRY I.

CAPET.

Character—Weak and insignificant, he was both treacherous and selfish.

Born : . . 1012.

Ascended the throne—July 20, 1032.

Principal events—Revolt of Prince Robert ; death of the Duke of Normandy ; wars with the Archbishop Mauger and the Count of Champagne ; battle of Bar-le-duc ; and the introduction into Europe of Tournaments.

Possessions—France.

Married—Matilda of Germany, and Agnes (or Anne) of Russia.

Children—PHILIP, CROWN PRINCE, *Robert*, and Hugh, by Queen Agnes.

Death of Henry—August 4, 1060.

Death of Agnes—1082.

Parents— } Robert the Pious ;
 } Constance of Toulouse.

Age when he died—48.

THE TOURNAMENT.

"*SANCT ET FORT** for ever ! *Sanct et Fort* for ever ! " Such was the cry which re-echoed again and again among the countless multitudes assembled in the Place Royale of Paris, to celebrate, by a trial of skill in arms, the birthday of King Henry the First.

Two youthful knights, competitors alike for fame and honour, had entered the lists, and it was on occasion of the repeated success of one (the younger of the two), that his name was shouted so enthusiastically by the admiring populace. Unhorsed and wounded, the Duke of Burgundy lay panting on the ground, whilst his noble adversary bent anxiously over him, endeavouring, though in vain, to unfasten his helmet ; at the approach of the injured knight's attendants, however, he retired, and, amid the acclamations of the people, the sounding of trumpets, and the waving of scarfs and kerchiefs from the balconies crowded with fair and noble ladies, he approached the royal canopy under which the Queen was seated, there to receive the guerdon of all his pains and difficulties—a silver chaplet and a jewelled sword. But a frown of displeasure was visible on Agnes' countenance, as she bent forward to reward the victor, for it was a royal prince he had overthrown ; and, had it not been for the encouraging smile of the Lady Cecile de la Lone, one of the beauteous damsels who stood behind the throne, *Sanct et Fort* would have shrunk beneath her gaze. Rising from his knees, however, he remounted his horse, and galloped three or four times gracefully round the arena, preparatory to making his final salutation. Suddenly he was accosted by his fallen opponent, who expressed himself desirous of renewing the combat. *Sanct et Fort* consented, and again they adjusted their lances ; once more they met, again Burgundy was dismounted, and this time, indeed, the prowess of the youthful Baron was so apparent, that Henry, rising from his seat, declared that he should choose for himself among the lovely damsels then present one who should be acknowledged as Queen of the day, and bride of the victor.

Cecile was selected ; and the air once more resounded with applaudits, as the gallant knight rode out of the lists, accompanied by his ladye love.

* One of the mottoes, and the ancient name of the family of Sandford of Sandford, co. Salop.

PHILIP I.

CAPET.

Character—A weak and vicious prince, who abandoned the reins of government, and suffered his kingdom to be distracted with foreign and civil dissensions.

Born . . . 1053.

Ascended the throne—August 4, 1060.

Principal events—The departure of Peter the Hermit and his army on a crusade ; their defeat and losses ; embarkation of the French princes and nobility for the Holy Land ; the capture of Jerusalem, and the third crusade.

Possessions—France.

Married—1067, Bertha of Holland ; and in 1093, Bertrade de Montfort.

Children—LOUIS, CROWN PRINCE, *Henry*, Charles, Constance, by Queen Bertha ; Philip, Florus, Cecilia, and Eustatia, by Queen Bertrade.

Death of Philip—July 29, 1108.

Death of Bertha—1093.

Death of Bertrade—1117.

Parents—{ Henry I.
 { Agnes of Russia.

Age when he died—55.

THE CHILD'S CRUSADE.

PIERRE DE ST. ETIENNE, a boy who was much interested by the various and noble armaments which were fitting out at this time for the Holy Land, impatient of the restraint his youth placed him under, determined to visit Palestine also, and without the guidance of older or sager persons. Accordingly he informed the credulous peasants that he had received a commission from Heaven to rescue the Holy Sepulchre, which he declared could only be effected by the interference of children. The infatuated people easily believed this improbable tale, and many parents speedily entrusted him with the care of their children. Mounted on a magnificent car, he then passed through the provinces, inciting others to join him, and was everywhere treated with infinite respect. On arriving at the shores of the Mediterranean, the unhappy children were allowed to set sail without pilots, and in the belief that Providence would guide them aright, so that their vessels sank, and all were lost.

LOUIS VI.*

CAPET.

Character—Valiant, wise, and amiable.

Born . . . 1081.

Ascended the throne—July 29, 1108.

Principal events—Civil contentions between the Sovereign and nobles; the war with England; the battle of Brenneville; and the introduction of the arts and sciences into France.

Possessions—France.

Married—Luciane de Rochefort; and, in 1115, Adelaide de Maurienne of Savoy.

Children—*Philip, Crown Prince*, d. October 13, 1131, **LOUIS, CROWN PRINCE**, Henry, *Hugh*, Robert, Philip, Peter, and Constance, by Queen Adelaide.

Death of Louis—August 1, 1137.

Death of Adelaide—1154.

Parents— { Philip I.;
 { Bertha of Holland.

Age when he died—56.

THE VIGILANT PRIEST.

ST. LAWRENCE'S DAY, August 10, 1175, happening during the siege of Rouen, King Louis the Seventh desired that hostilities should cease; upon which the inhabitants, trusting implicitly to his good faith, opened their gates, and many of them, particularly the youngest part, instantly repaired to the banks of the river, and commenced their festivities with a tournament. Baldwin IV. Count of Flanders, who accompanied the French King, seeing their want of security, and the ease with which the town might be surprised, hastily proposed an attack. For some time Louis rejected his infamous advice; but at length consented. At this critical moment, a priest of the town happened to be stationed on the tower where the alarm bell hung, amusing himself by watching the movements in the enemy's camp. Astonished at the great commotion he suddenly perceived, and apprehensive of treachery, he commenced ringing the bell. Quitting their sports, the citizens instantly returned to the town, and before the French army had arrived, everything was in a state of defence. A signal defeat then followed; and, shortly after, the King of England arriving with a strong reinforcement of Brabançons, the garrison rushed out, and attacking Louis in his camp, put him and his army to flight in every direction.

* Five monarchs of this name had ascended the French throne previous to Hugh Capet.

LOUIS VII.

CAPET.

Character—Weak and superstitious ; a bad king and treacherous friend.

Born . . . 1119.

Ascended the throne—August 1, 1137.

Principal events—The wars with Champagne and England ; the departure of Louis and the nobility for Palestine ; their ignominious return ; the siege of Rouen.

Possessions—France.

Married—1137, Eleanor of Aquitaine, afterwards Queen of England ; in 1152, Constance of Castile ; and in 1161, Adelheid of Blois.

Children—Mary and Alice, by Queen Eleanor ; Margaret and Alice, by Queen Constance ; PHILIP, CROWN PRINCE, and Agnes, by Queen Adelheid.

Death of Louis—September 18, 1180.

Death of Eleanor—June 26, 1202.

Death of Constance—October 4, 1160.

Death of Adelheid—June 4, 1205.

Parents— { Louis VI. ;
 { Adelaide de Maurienne of Savoy.

Age when he died—61.

THE WANDERING PRINCE.

AGAIN the page returned, and with the same distressing news.

"My Lords! this must be looked into," cried the impatient monarch. "Summon De Varennes to the presence, and let us obtain the true story."

The terrified courtier entered the royal saloon immediately after, and, seemingly abashed, stood before his master awaiting his sentence, like a culprit in the presence of his judge. "What can this unwonted disturbance signify, my Lord?" sternly exclaimed Louis; "if the Prince indeed has lost his way, why have you not despatched couriers to overtake him?" "Pardon me, Sire," answered the minister, "but I was in hopes that his Highness would shortly return, and without assistance; therefore I took the liberty—" "Of presuming too far on our kingly forbearance. Set out directly, my Lord, with a chosen band of attendants, and return not unless accompanied by my son." The case admitted of no delay, and, accordingly, within the hour, De Varennes and his men were on their road through the forest. The moon had risen high in the heavens ere the count and his followers again appeared near the chateau; but, fortunately, it was with an addition to their party. Completely disheartened, and much downcast, they were taking their way homeward, when they met a peasant, and by his side walked a youth whose disorderly appearance and rich attire betokened him to be the young Philip whose disappearance had occasioned so much confusion and alarm within the palace. Having become separated from his followers, he had wandered through the wood all night, and it was by mere accident that he met with the old man who so generously conducted him home. On his arrival the King was much relieved; but it was long ere he entirely recovered from the agitating effects of that day.

PHILIP II.

CAPET.

Character—Daring, ambitious, and deceitful.

Born . . . August 22, 1166.

Ascended the throne—September 18, 1180.

Principal events—Philip's departure, in joint confederacy with Richard of England, for Palestine; their quarrel; the invasion of Normandy; its conquest; the battle of Bouvines; and the fitting out of the fifth crusade.

Possessions—France.

Married—In 1180, Isabella of Hainault; in 1193, Ingeberge of Denmark; and in 1196, Agnes de Meranie.

Children—LOUIS, CROWN PRINCE, by Queen Isabella; Philip and Mary, by Queen Agnes.

Death of Philip—July 14, 1223.

Death of Isabella—March 15, 1189.

Death of Ingeberge—July 29, 1236.

Death of Agnes—1201.

Parents—{ Louis VII.;
 { Adelheid of Blois.

Age when he died—56.

THE ROYAL DEFENDER.

"TO ARMS! to arms!" shouted the royal troops; and Philip, though reclining beneath the luxuriant branches of an ash tree, not many yards distant from the chapel, being "mightily fatigued and harassed by that day's journey," immediately arose, and, heading his followers, moved towards the enemy's camp, whilst hostilities commenced in all directions. That was a fearful day! The fiery, warlike, and experienced Germans meeting sword in hand with the brave, determined French. So earnest was the strife, and so great the desire for victory on each side, that the leaders of both armies were at different times exposed to the peril of their lives. Once, during the heat of the conflict, a fierce Teutonic general, armed with his axe and sword, broke through all opposition, and, appearing directly before the King, wounded him severely on the shoulder; then the infantry, drawing near, managed with the help of their diminutive hooks and lances, to drag the monarch from his horse. The standard-bearer, ever faithful to his post, on perceiving his master's danger, waved the banner in token of distress; upon which sign, Fredericke de la Garde,* a French nobleman of much bravery, attended by Philip's cavalry, rode up, and rescued his Sovereign from impending destruction. The Emperor, also, is said to have been placed in great danger, whilst manfully disputing the possession of the imperial eagle with Pierre Mauvoisin, a valiant knight of high reputation. Well nigh overpowered by numbers, wounded, and dismounted, Otho must assuredly have fallen a victim to his enemy's fury, had not he, with one dexterous blow, cleaved his antagonist to the earth, and escaped from the field by means of a steed whose former rider had been slain. "We shall see his face no more this day," cried Philip, on perceiving his flight; "and, if I mistake not, the fortune of the day is ours. See how the enemy are scattered!" It was true—the battle of Bouvines was won!

* The ancient family name of the present family of Warde, of Squerries, co. Kent.

LOUIS VIII.

CAPET.

Character—Cruel and unjust; his greatest fame consisted in that “*he was the son of an excellent father, and the father of an excellent son.*”

Born . . . September 5, 1187.

Ascended the throne—July 14, 1223.

Principal events—The wars with England and with the Albigenses, and the siege of Avignon.

Possessions—France.

Married—May 23, 1200, Blanche of Castile.

Children—*Philip*, d. in 1218; *Louis*, Robert, *Philip*, *Alphonso*, Charles, *John*, *Stephen*, and *Isabella*.

Death of Louis—November 7, 1226.

Death of Blanche—November 30, 1253.

Parents— $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Philip II.;} \\ \text{Isabella of Hainault.} \end{array} \right.$

Age when he died—39.

THE GOOD QUEEN.

“AND is it indeed true, Fauchon? Have they the insolence to refuse my request? Dare they brave me? Nay, then, if it is even so, on our coronation oath, I will liberate them myself: such unheard-of barbarity and presumption shall not proceed with impunity. Run, child; inform the guards and maidens of my determination, and bid them follow me with all despatch.” With these words the Regent,* rising hastily from the couch on which she had been reclining, whilst awaiting the answer of the Canons of Notre Dame,† pushed aside her embroidery frame, and passing majestically into the hall, where her attendants, alarmed by their mistress’s unwonted agitation, had already assembled themselves, briefly informed them of her intentions, and instantly mounting her palfrey, rode off in the direction of the prison. But, when arrived before the gloomy portals, none had courage to obey her orders. Consequently, she set the example by dealing the first blow. This noble conduct immediately animated the guards with feelings of compassion and loyalty, and they speedily forced open the doors. Alas! what a sad spectacle was then exposed to view! Heaps of the wretched sufferers, dead and dying, were crowded together within the narrow space, fresh air being refused them. For a scene of horror Blanche had indeed prepared herself, but she had not as yet heard of the additional piece of tyranny enforced by the canons, who, enraged at her just interference, had caused the wives and children of their prisoners to be shut up in the same place with them. No wonder, therefore, that on beholding such a sight of extreme misery, the Queen should have staggered with affright. Immediately recovering herself, however, she assisted her dames of honour in restoring the exhausted strength of the hapless victims, and in consoling those who, overpowered by the sudden transition from death and darkness to life and light, were expiring at her feet; and, moreover, did not cease tending them, until she had enfranchised the whole number, and liberated them from the power of the Canons for ever.

* On the death of Louis VIII., the Queen-mother, Blanche of Castile, was appointed Regent during her son’s minority.

† The custodians of the Cathedral Church of Paris, having unjustly demanded the payment of a large sum towards a contribution from their vassals, on being refused, are said to have thrust the whole community into one cell, from which treatment many died of suffocation.

LOUIS IX.

CAPET.

Character—On the twenty-fifth of August, 'the Church celebrates the Feast of SAINT LOUIS. That Saint was this King.

Born . . . September 21, 1215.

Ascended the throne—November 7, 1226.

Principal events—The glorious expedition to Palestine, in 1248 ; the battles of Massoura and Carthage, and the siege of Tunis ; Institution of the Sorbonne.

Possessions—France.

Married—In May, 1224, Margaret of Provence.*

Children—*Blanche*, *Isabella*, *Louis*, *d.* in 1259, *PHILIP*, *John*, *John Tristan*, *Peter*, *Robert*, *Blanche*, *James*, *Margaret*, and *Agnes*.

Death of Louis—August 25, 1270.

Death of Margaret—December 20, 1285.

Parents— { *Louis VIII.*
 { *Blanche of Castile.*

Age when he died—54.

ANCIENT GALLANTRY.

So unshaken was the constancy and faith of the heroic Queen of Saint Louis that, notwithstanding the dangers of the expedition, she resolutely determined to accompany him on his journey to the Holy Land, in 1248, and, in consequence, was exposed, when his armies were overthrown, to the insults and persecutions of the Turks ; and, among other anecdotes which are recorded of her during the harassing siege of Damietta, is the following :—

Expecting every moment to hear the shouts of the victorious infidels, as they entered the town, her alarm and anxiety knew no bounds ; but, ever desirous to preserve her own dignity, and that of the King, she one day, in an agony of terror, threw herself at the feet of an ancient knight, upwards of eighty years of age, (the only attendant allowed her, besides her ladies and women, owing to the great want of men and soldiers in the royal camp,) and urgently besought him, whilst the tears streamed from her eyes, to "cut off her head the instant the Saracens should storm the city, that she might not fall alive into their hands." Upon which the aged cavalier, with the greatest *sang-froid*, replied, whilst supporting her to a seat, "You need not distress yourself on that point, madame, for it is what I long ago determined to do, even if you had not desired it?"

* Sister of Eleanor, Queen of England.

PHILIP III.

CAPET.

Character—In disposition he resembled his father, to whom, however, he was greatly inferior, both in capacity and judgment.

Born . . . April 30, 1245.

Ascended the throne—August 25, 1270.

Principal events—The wars with Spain and Arragon, and the execution of de la Brosse.

Possessions—France.

Married—In 1262, Isabella of Barcelona; and in 1272, Mary of Louvaine.

Children—*Louis*, d. in 1276, PHILIP, Charles, and *Robert*, by Queen Isabella; *Louis*, *Blanche*, and *Marguerite*,* by Queen Mary.

Death of Philip—October 6, 1285.

Death of Isabella—January 28, 1271.

Death of Mary—November 10, 1321.

Parents— { *Louis IX.*
 Margaret of Provence.

Age when he died—40.

DE LA BROSSE.

THE horrible murder of Prince Louis, eldest son of the King, and heir apparent to the throne, which was perpetrated during the early part of this reign, through the administration of a cup of poisoned coffee by his valet, whilst attending his master's levée, was imputed to many innocent and illustrious personages; among others, to no less an individual than the Queen of France, Mary of Louvaine, (Philip's second wife;) and her accuser was none other than his favourite minister, Pierre de la Brosse, a man of infamous character, and whose origin had been that of valet-de-chambre to the deceased monarch. His jealousy had been aroused by the influence which Mary possessed over her husband; for, during the King's year of widowhood, de la Brosse had been accustomed to use the most unbounded control over him; and the appearance of a rival in power, was an event he equally dreaded and shrunk from: consequently his aversion towards the unoffending Queen he took no pains to disguise. Distracted by the passionate assurances of his wife on the one hand, and the vehement declamations of his favourite on the other, Philip had recourse to the famous sorceress of Nivelles, in Brabant, who pronounced Mary to be innocent, and denounced de la Brosse as the Prince's murderer. Willing, however, to deal leniently with his counsellor, the King, although distrustful of him, did not immediately resort to harsh measures. But Pierre's character, having been once attacked, it was evident to all that his influence over the royal person would not be of long duration. Nor were his enemies disappointed; for, shortly afterwards, on its being discovered that the favourite held secret correspondence with the Spaniards, he was seized, accused of high treason, and *lèse majesté*, condemned to death, and instantly hung on the highest gibbet Paris could produce. The fickle multitude, however, by whom he was generally beloved, began to murmur at his sudden death, and rumours were busily circulated that, notwithstanding the late evidences in her favour, Mary was the culprit. Indignant at this unjust and unreasonable accusation, her brother, John I., Duke of Brabant, hastened from his home, demanded an opponent with whom to fight, in order to maintain his sister's innocence, and, on vanquishing him, publicly and proudly proclaimed the Queen's reputation to be unscathed.

* Second wife of Edward I., of England.

PHILIP IV.

CAPET.

Character—Selfish, violent, cruel, and unjust; from his great personal beauty he was surnamed *Le Bel*.

Born . . . 1268.

Ascended the throne—October 6, 1285.

Principal events—Wars with England and Flanders; the Battles of Courtray and Mons en Puelle; suppression of the order of Knights Templars, and the differences of the King with the Holy See.

Possessions—France and Navarre.

Married—August 16, 1284, Jane of Blois, Queen of Navarre.

Children—LOUIS, Philip, Charles, Robert, Isabella,* Margaret, and Blanche.

Killed—November 24, 1314.

Death of Jane—August 2, 1304.

Parents— $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Philip III.} \\ \text{Isabella of Barcelona.} \end{array} \right.$

Age when he died—46.

FRIGHTFUL RESULTS OF ENVY.

BONFIRES blazed on every hill, illuminations and rejoicings were to be seen in every direction, whilst persons of all ranks and descriptions might be viewed—all intent on the same object, namely, to catch the first glimpse of the Royal pair; and Bruges, but so lately the scene of war and contention, bore now one universal aspect of joy and excitement.

Among other festivities to be held in honour of the victorious monarch was a joust, or tournament, to which the fairest and noblest of the land hastened in their most costly attire, in order to welcome Philip and his beauteous Queen. A magnificent canopy, decorated with silken banners and armorial bearings, had been erected for their reception; and, as they graciously acknowledged the loud plaudits of the assembled multitude, all present felt that to live or die for such renowned and interesting sovereigns would be an honour and a delight. How different was the spectacle which presented itself to view but half an hour later! Jane, who had been educated in a court where all yielded to her superiority, "saw with astonishment and mortification" that the ladies around her were both conspicuous for their embroidered robes and superb diamonds, which equalled, even if they did not excel, her own in beauty. Rising from her chair, she turned in disgust from the arena, and exclaiming, "I thought that I should have appeared here as the only Queen, but I find six hundred women who by the richness of their apparel can dispute that title with me," immediately left the gallery. A scene of confusion ensued, and the King, hastily seeking his wife, demanded an explanation of her conduct. But so great was his affection for her, and so powerful her influence over him, that, at length, he was persuaded to comply with her unjust demand, and caused a heavy injurious tax to be laid on the but lately rejoicing inhabitants of Bruges. The indignant populace loudly remonstrated with the French governor, whose office it was to secure the money, and deposit it in the royal treasury. In consequence, seven or eight of the principal citizens were imprisoned. This was not to be borne; and that auspicious day which had dawned with every prospect of happiness, ended in strife and bloodshed! Upwards of five hundred Frenchmen were slain. And all these troubles were owing to the thoughtless envy of the Queen.

* Queen of England.

LOUIS X.

CAPET.

Character—Covetous and unprincipled ; a bad man, and an indifferent King.

Born . . . October 3, 1289.

Ascended the throne—November 24, 1314.

Principal events—The ministry of Charles Count of Valois ; execution of de Marigny ; the war with Flanders ; and the siege of Courtray.

Possessions—France and Navarre.

Married—September 21, 1305, Margaret Capet of Burgundy ; and August 19, 1315, Clemence Capet of Hungary.

Children—Jane, by Queen Margaret ; and JOHN, by Queen Clemence.

Death of Louis—June 5, 1316.

Murder of Margaret—1315.

Death of Clemence—October 12, 1328.

Parents— { Philip IV.
 { Jane of Blois, Queen of Navarre.

Age when he died—26.

THE AVENGING HUSBAND.

THE midnight watch was set, and, with a gloomy brow, the solitary guard proceeded to take his place near the prison door of Margaret, the incarcerated Queen of France. It was a cold and dark night, whilst the screeching of the owl alone broke the stillness that pervaded the subterraneous passages and dark halls leading to the dungeon which then enclosed the beautiful and unfortunate "Damsel of Burgundy !" when suddenly the whispering of voices was heard, and five men, clothed in the habit of Dominican friars appeared ; they exchanged a watchword with the sentinel, and having ascertained their mission, which was to pay a visit of consolation to the unhappy Queen, he admitted them into the royal cell. For some time the solemn chant of the priest, or the silvery notes of Margaret's voice, alone met his ear ; but half an hour had scarcely elapsed, when a piercing shriek, and the loud declamations of a monk, alarming him, he hastily withdrew the bolts, and entered the prison. Then what a scene of horror burst upon his view ! Stretched on a straw pallet, at the further end of the dungeon, lay the Queen, her beautiful hair and white robes floating around her ; whilst near her stood three of the make-believe monks ; one holding a lamp,—another a string of beads,—and the third a dagger, which he seemed in the act of plunging into her heart ; whilst two others were engaged in extracting, from a small closet in the wall, the few articles of linen which the Queen possessed. Among these was her winding sheet, and seizing this with a shout of triumph they rushed towards the couch. Their deadly purpose now flashed across the soldier's mind, but, while one of the murderers struck him down, the others fulfilled their mission, the order of the King ; and, on his recovery, the first objects which met his terrified gaze were the mouldering torch, and the lifeless form of his lovely captive, strangled in her own shroud !

JOHN I.

CAPET.

Character—

Born . . . November 15, 1316.

*Ascended the throne—*November 15, 1316.

*Principal events—*Regency of Philip Count of Poitiers.

*Possessions—*France, and Navarre.

*Death of John—*November 19, 1316.

Parents— { Louis X. ;
 { Clemence Capet of Hungary.

*Age when he died—*Four days.

A SCENE OF SORROW.

THE Silvery Queen of night had risen high in the heavens ; the inhabitants of the Palace had long since retired to rest, and even the brilliant orgies of the nobles and courtiers had ceased to resound through their costly apartments in the Louvre. Yet still the young mother gazed on the form of her dying child ! And what an hour was that ! the frequent gaspings of the sleeping babe, or the low, fervent, and ceaseless prayers of the beauteous Clemence, alone being heard amid the awful stillness of that eventful night. Nor was the glare of a torch admitted into that sacred chamber : the soothing rays of the moon alone shed their light over its occupants. The royal bed was placed opposite the window ; and as the anxious parent bent over her infant son, she noticed not the sudden appearance of a man's form which darkened the doorway ; and not until the stranger had advanced toward the centre of the apartment did she recognize her brother-in-law, Philip of Poitiers. "Forgive me, gracious sister !" he exclaimed, as he raised her hand to his lips, "for this intrusion on your presence ; but I could not rest this night, until assured of our nephew's health, and of your own. Relinquish, I entreat of you, my dearest Clemence, if only for this one night, the charge of your precious babe to my paternal care, and let me prevail on you to take the rest you so greatly need." But he urged in vain. The Queen had lifted her eyes from the child's face but for a moment, and then merely to smile her thanks on her attentive brother ; and now, perceiving that her babe stirred, she raised him in her arms. But the king moved not again—His gentle spirit had fled ! "Philip ! my child ! my child ! See ! Support my child !" cried the agonized Clemence. But taking his bereaved sister by the hand, the Count touched a bell which summoned her attendants around her. She, the lately stricken widow, now more desolate than ever.

PHILIP V.

CAPET.

Character—He possessed much capacity and judgment, and would most likely have made an excellent King, had he lived in more enlightened times.

Born . . . 1292.

Ascended the throne—November 19, 1316.

Principal events—Rebellion in favour of Jane, Queen of Navarre; meditated improvements in the State; and the attempts to reduce the weights and measures throughout the kingdom.

Possessions—France.

Married—In 1306, Jane of Burgundy.

Children—Jane, Margaret, Isabella, Blanche, and *Louis*, who d. in 1317.

Death of Philip—January 3, 1321-2.

Death of Jane—January 21, 1329.

Parents—The same as Louis X.

Age when he died—29.

THE WAXEN IMAGE.

ON the death of Philip the Fourth, Louis, the elder brother of Philip the Fifth, had ascended the throne; and for a time Charles, Count of Valois, a rash and ambitious Prince, had the entire control of affairs. Having a private jealousy against Enguerrand de Marigny, the late minister, Charles determined that his newly-acquired power should be the means of obtaining revenge on the unfortunate object of his resentment. Accordingly, having imposed on Louis with an exaggerated account of de Marigny's guilt the Count obtained his death warrant, and soon caused his victim to be ignominiously executed. The Count's folly and wickedness, however, did not rest here; and the following absurd accusation was brought against de Marigny's desolate widow: It was pretended that, in revenge for her husband's murder, she had caused a waxen image to be made, which, being placed in a gentle heat, was to dissolve slowly, and exercise such an influence upon the royal person that the King was to waste away as gradually as the figure melted, and with the last vestige of the wax he was to expire. For many years the unhappy Lady was immured in captivity; but, at length, remorse overtook her oppressor, and, when he was on the point of death, he caused her to be released, and her Lord's confiscated property to be restored.

CHARLES IV.*

CAPET.

Character—Weak and avaricious, his reign was undistinguished by great or prudent actions.

Born . . . 1293.

Ascended the throne—January 3, 1321-2.

Principal events—The visit of Isabella Queen of England, and her son Edward; to the French court; the war with Flanders; and the death of Charles Count of Valois.

Possessions—France.

Married—In 1307, Blanche of Burgundy; in 1323, Mary of Luxembourg; and, in 1326, Jane Capet d'Evreux.

Children—*Louis* by Queen Mary; *Jane*, Mary, and Blanche, by Queen Jane.

Death of Charles—February 1, 1327-8.

Death of Blanche—1326.

Death of Mary—1324.

Death of Jane—March 4, 1370.

Parents—The same as Philip V.

Age when he died—34.

THE "SHE WOLF."

THE origin of those dreadful wars which devastated France on this Monarch's death, and which lasted with little intermission for near two hundred and fifty years, is to be traced to the unhappy education which Edward III., King of England, received at the hands of his mother, Isabella, daughter of Philip IV., King of France, and sister of King Charles IV. This bad woman, who has been deservedly styled the "She Wolf of France," leaving her husband's kingdom, in company with her youthful son and her infamous favourite, Mortimer Earl of March, arrived at her brother's court, to tender homage for the territories held by the English Monarch in France, which Charles had consented to receive from his nephew on behalf of his father. The outward formula having been gone through, and all pretext for her further stay at the French court being at an end, Isabella at length declared her true motives for thus deserting her home at a time when King Edward was in particular need of advice and assistance. She publicly announced her design of dethroning that unhappy Prince, and of assuming the reins of government herself; and had the audacity to apply to Charles himself for support in her infamous schemes. The King not only refused, however, to countenance her plots, but, animated by the general repugnance of his subjects at such unnatural proceedings, he desired her to quit the kingdom. This affront was never forgotten, and to the prejudice thenceforth instilled into her son's mind may be assigned the main cause of his after presumption in claiming the French crown, on the pretext of his mother being the only surviving child of King Philip the Fourth.

* Three Kings of this name had reigned over France during the Carolingian dynasty.

PHILIP VI.

VALOIS.

Character—Rash, cruel, and vindictive.

Born . . . 1293.

Ascended the throne—February 1, 1327-8.

Principal events—The wars with England and Flanders; the Battles of Cressy and the Sluys; the siege of Calais; and the Great Plague of 1348.

Possessions—France.

Married—In 1313, the Princess Jane Capet of Burgundy; and, January 29, 1349, the Infanta Blanche Capet of Navarre.

Children—JOHN DUKE OF NORMANDY, Mary Duchess of Brabant, a Prince, *Prince Louis*, and Philip Duke of Orleans, by Queen Jane; the Princess Jane, by Queen Blanche.

Death of Philip—August 22, 1350.

Death of Jane—September 12, 1348.

Death of Blanche—October 5, 1398.

Parents— { Charles, Count of Valois, third son of Philip III.
 { Margaret Capet of Naples.

Age when he died—57.

"THE FEMALE WARRIOR."

MARGARET OF FLANDERS, Countess of Montfort, commonly known in history by the appellation of "The Female Warrior," lived during this reign; and her fame has been handed down to posterity in common with that of Joan of Arc. She escaped from confinement with her infant son, and shutting herself up in the small town of Hennebon, within her territory of Bretagne, boldly bade defiance to King Philip and his emissaries, with whom she was then at war. At length, being closely pressed by the enemy, and her provisions for the garrison falling short, she was prevailed upon to send her child for safety to the court of Edward III., King of England, from whom she expected aid. Day after day passed on, however, and not a sign of any help from the English appearing, her guards became mutinous, and the inhabitants of the town loudly called upon her to surrender. This her high spirit shrank from; but, at length, being compelled by the urgent necessity of the case, she yielded to the entreaties of her attendants, only requesting time to give one more look at the sea, in case the long-expected succour should be at hand. She accordingly mounted the highest tower of her fortifications, and, to her great joy, espied in the distance several sails, which, on their approach, proved to be a British fleet, headed by Sir Walter Manny and his troops. These she hailed with delight, and, throwing open her gates, received them with every expression of thanksgiving and joy; and with their help succeeded, soon after, in dispersing the French monarch's troops, and proclaiming peace between the *then* separate countries of France and Bretagne.

J O H N II.

VALOIS.

Character—A weak and unjust Monarch, though of personal bravery in the field, and much patience under captivity.

Born . . . April 22, 1319.

Ascended the throne—August 22, 1350.

Principal events—Murder of the Constable d'Angoulême by order of Charles I. King of Navarre; imprisonment of that Monarch; war with England; the Battle of Poitiers; John's captivity; frightful insurrection, called the Jacquerie; and the murder of Marcel.

Possessions—France.

Married—In 1332, the Princess Bona of Luxembourg; and, February 19, 1349, Jane of Auvergne Countess of Boulogne.

Children—CHARLES THE DAUPHIN, Louis I. King of Naples, John Duke of Berri, Philip Duke of Burgundy, Joanna Queen of Navarre, Mary Duchess of Barr, *the Princess Agnes*, Margaret, a nun, and Isabella Duchess of Milan, by the Duchess Bona; and *two Princesses* by Queen Jane.

Death of John—April 8, 1364.

Death of Bona—September 11, 1348.

Death of Jane—November 21, 1361.

Parents— { Philip VI.
 { Jane Capet of Burgundy.

Age when he died—44.

THE JACQUERIE.

PURSUED by enemies, fiercer even than the victorious English, namely the cruel mob, known as the Jacquerie,* Jane of Bourbon, Dauphiness of France, and wife to the young Regent, found herself compelled, in company with her uncle, Philip Duke of Orleans, and a few pages and ladies, to take refuge in the town of Meaux, the inhabitants of which place appeared tolerably loyal. How great then was their horror when, on the host of infuriated peasants appearing before the walls, the cowardly citizens threw wide their portals, and bid them welcome! Fortunately for the Dauphiness and her attendants, Gaston Count of Foix, and the Captal de Buche, two of King Edward's knights, together with a few hundred followers, were at that moment passing by, and, on being informed of the danger, rode forward like "brave and valiant nobles as they were;" and, being aided by the Duke of Orleans, advanced to the palace, which they found surrounded by the multitude, who threatened to burst open the gates, and murder every one within. Such was indeed their vehemence, that for some time these "courageous champions of the fair" were in danger of their lives. But at length the Jacquerie withdrew, and the Dauphiness and her retinue were, owing to English bravery, preserved from sanguinary and ignominious deaths.†

* The derivation of this name is supposed to be from the short coat worn by the lower classes, called "*a jack*."

† See Froissart's Chronicles.

CHARLES V.

VALOIS.

Character—Good, brave, and prudent.

Born . . . January 21, 1337.

Ascended the throne—April 8, 1364.

Principal events—The wars with England and Spain ; the Battle of Auray ; and the death of Du Guesclin.

Possessions—France.

Married—April 8, 1350, the Princess Jane of Bourbon.

Children—*Princess Joanna, the Princess Bona, the Princess Jane, CHARLES THE DAUPHIN, the Princess Mary, Louis Duke of Orleans, the Princess Isabella, Prince John, and Catherine Countess of Montpensier.*

Death of Charles—September 16, 1380.

Death of Jane—February 6, 1377-8.

Parents— { John II. ;
 { Bona of Luxembourg.

Age when he died—43.

"LE SOLEIL DU ROYAUME."

THE refinement of gallantry must have been at its height in the court of France when King Charles V. saluted his bride with this resplendent title.

Jane of Bourbon was indeed worthy of the designation. Combining wisdom and prudence with every other virtue, it is probable that few Queens in France, or in all Europe, have surpassed her in excellence. Her person was beautiful, her mind highly gifted ; and so great an idea of her superior understanding was entertained by her husband, that he determined, on his death, to appoint her Regent of the kingdom. Unhappily for France, this amiable Princess died before the King, and thus his intentions respecting her were never fulfilled. However, the remembrance of her bounties and numerous virtues will for ever render her memory cherished by the French, who during her lifetime were sincerely and deeply attached to her.

CHARLES VI.

VALOIS.

Character—Just and amiable in his few responsible actions.

Born . . . December 3, 1368.

Ascended the throne—September 16, 1380.

Principal events—Regency of the King's uncles ; Charles's illness and loss of reason ; murders of the Dukes of Orleans and Burgundy, and of the Count of Armagnac ; the war with England ; the siege of Harfleur ; the Battle of Agincourt ; and the introduction of card-playing into France.

Possessions—France.

Married—July 17, 1385, the Princess Isabella de Wittelsbach of Bavaria.

Children—*Charles the Dauphin*, d. Dec. 28, 1386, *the Princess Joanna, Isabella Queen of England*, m. 2ndly, the Duke of Orleans, *Jane Duchess of Bretagne, Charles the Dauphin*, d. Jan. 11, 1400, *Mary a nun, Michelle, Duchess of Burgundy, Louis the Dauphin*, d. Dec. 18, 1415, *John the Dauphin*, d. April 4, 1416, *Catherine Queen of England, CHARLES THE DAUPHIN, and Prince Philip.*

Death of Charles—October 20, 1422.

Death of Isabella—September 3, 1435.

Parents— { Charles V. ;
 { Jane of Bourbon.

Age when he died—53.

THE BAL MASQUE.

By order of the Queen, a grand banquet and fête were held in the Palace of the Louvre, in 1393, to celebrate the marriage of one of her German ladies with a French courtier ; and King Charles, anxious to gratify the youthful pair by some mark of condescension, determined to appear, with five young noblemen in his suite, in the characters of Savages. Accordingly, being attired in very coarse and wild-looking dresses, they entered the dancing-hall. In those days chandeliers and lamps were as yet unknown, and the torch-bearers were desired to remain close to the walls, lest, owing to the inflammatory nature of the savage costumes, they should ignite. The Duke of Orleans, forgetful of this necessity, seized a flambeau from one of the men, and, holding it near one of the disguised persons, immediately set fire to the flax of which his dress was composed. The unhappy youth, being chained, for effect, to his companions, the flames spread instantly, and the whole band were speedily in the most imminent danger. Charles, being the sixth, was at the furthest end of the line, and happened to be talking to the Duchess of Berri, who, with the greatest presence of mind, enveloped him in her mantle, and thus rescued him from death. One other only saved his life, by tearing himself from the chain, and plunging into a cistern of water, which was standing near. In consequence of these disastrous results of the Royal fête, the populace could not be persuaded but that the King had been injured also ; and, until (though suffering from severe illness) he had shown himself at the Palace windows, it was not possible to pacify them.

From this excitement Charles never recovered, and his reason soon fled for ever.

CHARLES VII.

VALOIS.

Character—Weak and indolent, he was a bad man, but a prudent King.

Born . . . January 21, 1402-3.

Ascended the throne—October 20, 1422.

Principal events—The siege of Orleans; the appearance, fame, conquests, and murder of Joan of Arc; the English Dukes of Bedford and York declared Regents of France; disturbances occasioned by the revolts of the Dauphin; and the final departure of the English.

Possessions—France.

Married—December 18, 1413, the Princess Mary de Valois of Naples.

Children—LOUIS THE DAUPHIN, *Princess Radegonde*, Catherine Countess of Charolois, *Prince James*, Jolanda Duchess of Savoy, Jane Duchess of Bourbon, *Prince Philip*, *Princess Margaret*, *Princess Joanna*, *Princess Mary*, Madeleine Princess of Viane, and Charles Duke of Berri.

Death of Charles—July 22, 1461.

Death of Mary—November 29, 1463.

Parents—{ Charles VI.;
Isabella de Wittelsbach of Bavaria.

Age when he died—58.

THE MAID OF ORLEANS.

JOAN OF ARC was the child of a shepherd of Lorraine, and from her early youth had been noted for her singular habits and love of solitary pursuits. She shrank from the society of children of her own age, and was very fond of resorting to a large beech tree standing by a limpid stream, on the borders of a wood, commonly called "The Fairy Tree." Being highly imaginative, and much interested in the fate of her unfortunate Sovereign, King Charles VII., she at length declared that spirits from heaven had appeared to her, and commissioned her to rescue France from the hands of its enemies. Having obtained, with much difficulty, an audience of the Royal person, she announced her mission; and, willing to embrace a last hope, Charles lent her a ready ear. A body of troops was put under her command, and proceeding to Orleans, which was besieged by the English, she displayed such extraordinary courage and skill, that they were forced to raise the siege. Her continued successes at length obtained her the gratification of seeing her King crowned at Rheims; after which it was with great reluctance that she consented to resume the command of the army. The great generals and officers, however, becoming jealous of her increasing fame, one day abandoned her to the fury of the enemy, and, after being closely imprisoned in a dark dungeon, she was tried for heresy, and illegally sentenced to be burnt at the stake; which infamous execution took place at the market-place of Rouen, May 30, 1431, to the eternal disgrace of both parties concerned in the atrocious action.*

* It is affirmed by some that she did not suffer death, but was released, and received at Orleans afterwards with due honours; v. *Elements of Universal History*, by H. White, p. 393.

LOUIS XL

VALOIS.

Character—Cruel, avaricious, and rash.

Born . . . July 6, 1423.

Ascended the throne—July 22, 1461.

Principal events—The art of printing first introduced into France; the war with Burgundy; death of Charles the Bold; projected invasion from England; and self-imprisonment of Louis in the gloomy Donjon (or Castle) of Plessis-les-Tours.

Possessions—France.

Married—June 24, 1436, the Princess Margaret Stuart of Scotland; and, in 1457, the Princess Charlotte de Maurienne of Savoy.

Children—*Prince Joachim*, *Princess Louise*, Anne Princess Royal, afterwards Regent of France and Duchess of Bourbon, Jane Duchess of Orleans, afterwards Queen of France, **CHARLES THE DAUPHIN**, and *Prince Francis*, by Queen Charlotte.

Death of Louis—October 30, 1483.

Death of Margaret—August 16, 1445.

Death of Charlotte—December 1, 1493.

Parents— { Charles VII.
 { Mary de Valois of Naples.

Age when he died—60.

A KISS ON PHILOSOPHIC PRINCIPLES.

MARGARET STUART the Dauphiness was one day traversing an apartment in the Palace, in which the great Alain Chartier was reclining on a bench fast asleep. Approaching his person, to the great astonishment of her attendants, she bent forward, and kissed his lips. Then turning to her wondering retinue, she assured them that it was not the man she kissed, but the mouth which pronounced such sublime oracles.

CHARLES VIII.

VALOIS.

Character—Brave, but imprudent. By some he is styled "the most honest of men and best of Princes," though his general character fell far short of this description.

Born . . . June 30, 1470.

Ascended the throne—October 30, 1483.

Principal events—Regency of the King's sister, the Duchess of Bourbon; the war with Italy; conquest of Naples; and the coronation of Charles at Rome, as Emperor of Constantinople.

Possessions—France, Naples, and Sicily.

Married—December 13, 1491, Anne Capet Duchess of Bretagne.

Children—*Charles the Dauphin*, d. December 6, 1495, *Charles the Dauphin*, d. October 2, 1496, *Prince Francis*, and *Anne Princess Royal*.

Death of Charles—April 7, 1498.

Death of Anne—January 9, 1513.

Parents— { Louis XI. ;
 { Charlotte de Maurienne of Savoy.

Age when he died—27.

KINGLY MERCY.

LOUIS DUKE OF ORLEANS, brother-in-law of this Monarch, and afterwards Louis XII., having seriously affronted the Regent, Anne Duchess of Bourbon, retired from court; and his first act, after assembling a band of chosen confederates, was to declare himself at war with the government. In the Battle of St. Aubyn, however, he was taken prisoner, and confined by Anne's order in the tower of Bourges. His unhappy wife, Jane Duchess of Orleans, for long in vain solicited his pardon, both from her sister and the youthful Monarch. At length her tears and supplications wrought upon the feelings of the latter, and he determined that his first act of authority should be one of mercy. Accordingly, feigning a desire to hunt near the fortress in which Louis was confined, he departed thither, attended by a few of his courtiers. Two of these, when arrived at the spot, he despatched to open the tower gates and liberate the Duke, whom he awaited at a neighbouring chateau. No sooner was he free, than Orleans hastened to throw himself at the feet of his deliverer, who cordially embraced him, and assured him of his lasting attachment, thus securing to himself a faithful and devoted subject in his lately turbulent relative.

LOUIS XII.

VALOIS.

Character—Benevolent, wise, and prudent, his popularity obtained him the title of "Father of his people."

Born . . . March, 1462.

Ascended the throne—April 7, 1498.

Principal events—The great Italian war; the conquests of Naples and Milan; the wars with England and Spain; together with the Battle of the Spurs.

Possessions—France, Naples, and Milan.

Married—1st, in 1476, the Princess Jane of Valois, his cousin; 2ndly, January 8, 1499, Anne, Queen Dowager of France, widow of Charles VIII.; and 3rdly, October 9, 1514, the Princess Mary Tudor of England.*

Children—Claude Princess Royal, afterwards Countess of Angoulême, and Queen of France, Renée Duchess of Ferrara, and two Princes, by Queen Anne.

Death of Louis—January 1, 1514-15.

Death of Jane—February 4, 1504-5.

Death of Anne—January 9, 1513.

Death of Mary—June 25, 1533.

Parents—{ Charles Duke of Orleans, grandson of Charles V.;
{ Mary of Cleves.

Age when he died—52.

A GOOD EXAMPLE.

THIS magnanimous Monarch, who was famed both for his clemency and justice, being one day urged to avenge himself on a helpless individual, from whom, before his accession, he had suffered much injury, generously replied, "Ce n'est pas au Roi de France à venger les injures faites au Duc d'Orléans!"

* Daughter of Henry VII., and Sister of King Henry VIII.

FRANCIS I.

VALOIS.

Character—Selfish and impetuous ; yet distinguished by his great personal courage.

Born . . . September 12, 1494.

Ascended the throne—January 1, 1514-15.

Principal events—Regency of the King's mother, Louise Countess of Angoulême ; wars with Italy and Germany ; the Battle of Pavia ; siege of Rome ; invasion of Naples ; war with England ; peace with that country ; and the famous meeting between the French Monarch and Henry VIII. on the Field of the Cloth of Gold.

Possessions—France, Tuscany, Genoa, part of Naples, and part of Germany.

Married—1st, May 18, 1514, the Princess Royal, his cousin ; and 2ndly, in July, 1530, the Archduchess Eleanor of Hapsburg, Queen Dowager of Portugal.

Children—*Louisa, Princess Royal, the Princess Charlotte, Francis the Dauphin*, d. August 12, 1536, **HENRY THE DAUPHIN**, Madeleine Queen of Scotland, *Charles Duke of Orleans*, and Margaret Duchess of Savoy, by Queen Eleanor.

Death of Francis—March 31, 1547.

Death of Claude—July 20, 1524.

Death of Eleanor—February 18, 1558.

Parents— $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Charles Count of Angoulême, great-grandson of} \\ \text{Charles V. ;} \\ \text{Louise de Maurienne of Savoy.} \end{array} \right.$

Age when he died—52.

THE UNNATURAL FATHER.

AFTER the Battle of Pavia, this King was taken prisoner by the Emperor Charles V., and confined some time in Spain. Nor was he liberated until the hard conditions insisted on by the victor were yielded to. Then, accompanied by Lannoy, he hastily returned to his own dominions. On arriving at the banks of the Bidassoa (a river which separates the countries of France and Spain), however, the Dauphin and Henry Duke of Orleans, who were to be delivered up to the Emperor as hostages, appeared on the opposite side, attended by Lautrec, an experienced French minister. The two parties crossed at the same time, and met in the centre of the stream. With one parting embrace, the unnatural parent hastily delivered his children to the care of Lannoy ; and, whilst he returned to Bayonne, waving his cap, and crying, " I am yet a King," the unhappy youths were conveyed to what was but lately their father's prison. Nor were the severities of their imprisonment mitigated on account of their tender age ; on the contrary, being greatly incensed at the perfidy of Francis, who had refused, when at liberty, to comply with the treaties made between them, Charles V. deprived his prisoners of every species of amusement, and frequently confined them in gloomy dungeons, placing them in a most forlorn condition. At last they were ransomed by the French for the sum of 1,200,000 francs, which were despatched in forty-eight chests, to the Bidassoa, and there exchanged for the Princely captives, as they had been, for their heartless parent, three years previously.

HENRY II.

VALOIS.

Character—Personally brave, and of an amiable disposition ; he was a popular, though an imprudent Monarch.

Born . . . March 30, 1519.

Ascended the throne—March 31, 1547.

Principal events—Wars with Germany and England ; the siege of St. Quentin ; the capture of Calais ; the reconciliation of Henry and the King of Spain ; and death of the former at a tournament in honour of his daughter's marriage with the latter.

Possessions—France, with a few German and Italian states.

Married—October 28, 1533, the Princess Catherine de Medicis.

Children—FRANCIS THE DAUPHIN, Elizabeth, Princess Royal, afterwards Queen of Spain, Claude Duchess of Lorraine, *Louis Duke of Orleans*, Prince Charles, afterwards King Charles IX., Henry Duke of Anjou, afterwards King Henry III., Margaret Queen of France, Francis Duke of Alençon, afterwards Duke of Anjou, *the Princess Victoria*, and *the Princess Jane*.

Death of Henry—July 11, 1559.

Death of Catherine —January 5, 1589.

Parents— { Francis I. ;
 { Claude of Valois.

Age when he died—40.

ROYAL CURLS.

LE JOUR DES ROIS, as the Feast of the Epiphany is called by the French, was observed, during the sixteenth century in France, with much splendour and festivity. The Count of Angoulême (father of Francis I.) kept it during his son's minority, with great rejoicing. On one occasion, the young Count having invited many of his noble friends and companions to participate in the fête, was engaged at playing at a mock siege, having snow balls for missiles, when the young Lord de Montgomerie, letting fall a torch which he carried in his hand, wounded Francis very seriously, and destroyed the long flowing locks which adorned his person ; in consequence, the young Prince's head was shaved, and the fashion of wearing short hair prevailed in the country from that period until the abundant curls of the youthful Monarch Louis XIV. renewed the ancient practice of allowing it to grow.

FRANCIS II.

VALOIS.

Character—Pious and amiable. This good young Prince would most probably have been ranked among the best of France's Kings had his reign been longer.

Born . . . January 20, 1543.

Ascended the throne—July 11, 1559.

Principal events—Commencement of the Religious Wars ; the conspiracy of Amboise ; and the summoning of the Council at Trent.

Possessions—France and Scotland.

Married—April 24, 1558, Mary Stuart Queen of Scotland.*

Death of Francis—December 5, 1560.

Execution of Mary—February 8, 1586-7.

Parents—{ Henry II. ;
Catherine de Medicis.

Age when he died—17.

A BRIDE CARRIED TO THE ALTAR.

BEFORE her union with Anthony Duke of Vendôme, in 1548, Jane II. Queen of Navarre, was betrothed to William Duke of Cleves, when she was but twelve years old. The etiquette of the day obliged the young Infanta to be attired in the most extravagant manner, so that when the time arrived for repairing to the church, her jewels and other ornaments were found to be so numerous and heavy that she could not walk. The Constable de Montmorenci, therefore, was commanded to carry her in his arms, which he accordingly did, to the great amusement of the bystanders.

* Mother of James I. King of England.

CHARLES IX.

VALOIS.

Character—Weak, cruel, and contemptible.

Born . . . June 27, 1550.

Ascended the throne—December 5, 1560.

Principal events—Continuation of the Civil or Religious Wars ; the siege of Rouen ; Battle of Dreux ; siege of Orleans ; the death of Guise ; battle of St. Denis ; Murders of the Queen of Navarre, the Prince of Condé, and Admiral Coligny ; and the Massacre of St. Bartholomew.

Possessions—France.

Married—November 27, 1570, the Archduchess Elizabeth of Hapsburg.

Child—*Mary-Elizabeth, Princess Royal.*

Death of Charles—May 30, 1574.

Death of Elizabeth—January 22, 1592.

Parents—The same as Francis II.

Age when he died—23.

THE CONVERSION.

“UPON my honour that’s a brave little fellow.”

The speaker was the Baron des Adrets, the terrible Huguenot leader, who was waging war against his earthly Sovereign and the King of Kings at the same time, and whose name had become a byword for cruelty and outrage, his every footstep being marked by violence and bloodshed.

And of whom was he speaking?—

A boy, a child of some eleven or twelve years of age, who was at that moment saving his father’s life at the risk of his own. That father was the Sieur de Breteville, a loyal subject and good Catholic, who remembering his Master’s words, “What shall it profit a man, if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul,” had refused to obey the Baron’s command and trample on the crucifix. Des Adrets gave him one more chance, however. His son was told that if he would venture to walk round the rock outside the parapet in front of the landing place where the general and his officers were standing, that his father should be set at liberty without a ransom. The father protested and implored, but the tyrant was firm and the brave child immediately resolved to venture. With a yawning precipice below him and scarce footing sufficient to support even his light weight, the daring boy was already half way round the rock.

One of the Huguenot officers who stood by Des Adrets, remarked that the lad would deserve his life if he succeeded, but he was sure it was an impossibility. And truly it looked like it. Louis had now arrived at a point where even such slight hold as he had hitherto contrived to grasp, failed him and it seemed equally difficult and dangerous for him to advance or recede. For one moment, the brave little fellow’s courage gave way, but the next instant he saw below him an old gurgyle projecting from the face of the rock, and between him and it, a small holly bush extended its branches. He closed his eyes and breathed a prayer to God, for help. Then letting go his hold of the rock he dropped, catching at the bush as he did so. And in the meanwhile how earnestly the father prayed to Him, who had promised, that “in their hands shall they bear thee up, that thou dash not thy foot against a stone.” Suddenly there was a cry from the lookers on, and the father’s heart almost stopped beating. Had his heroic child then perished? Was it all over, and should he behold his remains dashed in pieces below the height on which they stood? The Baron speaks

again. "You are a brave little fellow, and you have saved your father." The Sieur de Bretteville turns, and with a cry of joy, clasps his Louis once more safely in his arms! Des Adrets had sacked churches and laid waste villages, he had murdered priests and destroyed altars. Apostacy or Death had been the choice for all such as had fallen into his hand up to that time. But God's grace is marvellous. The tyrant was subdued by the child, and after a long and earnest repentance, this persecutor of Catholics was reconciled to that Church which he had endeavoured to destroy, and died in the Faith he had sworn to uproot.

HENRY III.

VALOIS.

Character—Cruel, unjust, and unfeeling. During the whole of his short and unhappy reign, France was one continual scene of warfare and desolation.

Born . . . September 19, 1551.

Ascended the throne—May 30, 1574.

Principal events—Regency of Catherine de Medicis ; progress of the Civil Wars ; formation of the League ; Battle of Coutras ; murder of Henry Duke of Guise ; the siege of Paris ; and the King's murder by Jacques Clement, a Jacobin monk.

Possessions—France ; and, before his accession to the throne of that country, Poland.

Married—February 14, 1575, the Princess Louisa of Lorraine.

Child—An infant, who died at its birth.

Death of Henry—August 2, 1589.

Death of Louisa—January 19, 1601-2.

Parents—The same as Charles IX.

Age when he died—37.

PRETTY DOGS.

DURING the siege of Paris when King Henry was encamped before its walls, the great Sully, afterwards so renowned as the Minister of Henry IV., had occasion to visit the Monarch, to converse on matters of moment ; and, on being ushered into the Royal presence, he says, he "found Henry in his closet, a sword by his side, and a short cloak on his shoulders, a little turban on his head, and about his neck was suspended a basket, in which were two or three little dogs, no bigger than his fist!" The King was more concerned with his pretty dogs than he was with the welfare of his kingdom and subjects.

HENRY IV.

BOURBON.

Character—An immoral man, but a prudent and generous King.

Born . . . December 13, 1553.

Ascended the throne—August 2, 1589.

Principal events—Termination of the Religious Wars, and of the siege of Paris; publication of the Edict of Nantes; the war with Spain; building of the Pont Neuf; insurrections of Biron and Bouillon; and the projected new Crusade.

Possessions—France, Navarre, and part of Savoy.

Married—1st, August 18, 1572, his cousin, the Princess Margaret of Valois, b. May 14, 1552; and 2ndly, December 27, 1600, the Princess Mary de Medicis, b. April 26, 1575.

Children—LOUIS THE DAUPHIN, Elizabeth, Princess Royal, b. November 22, 1602, *m.* October 18, 1615, Philip IV. King of Spain; Christina, b. February 10, 1606, *m.* February 10, 1619, Victor-Amadeus I. Duke of Savoy; *a Prince*, d. November 17, 1611. Gaston-John-Baptiste, Duke of Orleans, b. April 25, 1608, and d. February 2, 1600, and Henrietta-Maria, b. November 26, 1609, *m.* May 1, 1625, Charles I. King of Great Britain; by Queen Mary.

Murder of King Henry—May 14, 1610.

Death of Queen Margaret—March 27, 1615. She was divorced in 1600.

Death of Queen Mary—July 13, 1642.

Parents—{ Anthony Duke of Vendôme, descended from Robert, third son of King Louis IX.
Jane II. Queen of Navarre.

Age when he died—56.

THE HASTY CONCLUSION.

On one occasion, when this Monarch arrived, much fatigued and worn with the cares of the day, at a small country village, he was immediately accosted by the inhabitants with an address, commencing with, "O mighty King! so gracious, so powerful!"—"And so tired!" interrupted his Majesty; "therefore if you please, gentlemen, we will hear the rest to-morrow."

LOUIS XIII.

BOURBON.

Character—Weak and vacillating, a good man, but an indifferent King.

Born . . . September 17, 1601.

Ascended the throne—May 14, 1610.

Principal events—Executions of D'Ancre, and Leonora de Galigai ; insurrection of the Huguenots ; the siege of La Rochelle ; the Battles of Corbie and Perpignan ; the conspiracy of the Count de Soissons ; and the death of Cardinal Richelieu.

Possessions—France and Navarre.

Married—November 24, 1615, the Archduchess Anne of Austria, Infanta of Spain, *b.* 1601.

Children—LOUIS AND DAUPHIN, Philip of Anjou, afterwards Duke of Orleans, *b.* September 21, 1640, and *d.* June 9, 1701. He was the ancestor of Louis Philippe.

Death of King Louis—May 14, 1643.

Death of Queen Anne—January 20, 1666.

Parents— $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Henry IV. ;} \\ \text{The Princess Mary de Medicis.} \end{array} \right.$

Age when he died—41.

RETALIATION.

WHEN this King first came to the throne, the great Sully was continued in his office for a short time ; but the young courtiers who surrounded the youthful Monarch being foolish enough to hold in contempt the Duke's manners and dress, because they were of an antiquated fashion, he took occasion to address his Sovereign with the following words, "Sire, I am too old to change my habitudes needlessly. When the late King your father, of glorious memory, did me the honour to enter into conversation with me, on his great and important affairs, he always, as a preamble, made all the buffoons go out." The King, perceiving his meaning, immediately ordered the courtiers to retire.

LOUIS XIV.

BOURBON.

Character—Ambitious, unjust, and immoral: towards the end of his life, however, he showed signs of amendment.

Born . . . September 5, 1638.

Ascended the throne—May 14, 1643.

Principal events—Regency of Anne of Austria, and of Cardinal Mazarin; the war of the Fronde; wars with Flanders, Holland, England, Germany, and Spain; Battles of Solebay, Sabybach, and Almanza; and the revocation of the Edict of Nantes; Mazarin, Rebys, Turenne, Colbert, Corneille, Racine, Fénelon, and the General Prince of Condé, flourished.

Possessions—France, Navarre, the Netherlands, Darmstadt, and other states in Germany, and Italy, &c.

Married—June 9, 1660, the Archduchess Maria-Theresa of Austria, *b.* September 20, 1638.

Children—*Louis the Dauphin*, *b.* November 1, 1661, *d.* April 15, 1711; *Mary-Anne-Elizabeth*, *Princess Royal*, *b.* November 18, and *d.* December 30, 1662; *the Princess Mary-Anne*, *b.* November 16, *d.* December 26, 1664; *the Princess Maria-Theresa*, *b.* January 2, 1667, *d.* March 1, 1672; *Philip Duke of Anjou*, *b.* August 5, 1668, *d.* July 10, 1671; and *Louis-Francis Duke of Anjou*, *b.* June 14, *d.* November 4, 1672.

Death of King Louis—September 1, 1715.

Death of Queen Maria-Theresa—July 30, 1683.

Parents— $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Louis XIII.;} \\ \text{The Archduchess Anne of Austria.} \end{array} \right.$

Age when he died—76.

COURTESY EVEN TO THE LAST.

AFTER the great Battle of Blenheim, when Marshal Tallard was defeated by the English Duke of Marlborough, the latter, whilst riding over the field of battle, chanced to recognise a dying French soldier, who had distinguished himself during the engagement. The Duke approached, and endeavoured to console him, saying, "If your master had many soldiers like you, we should not have won the victory." "Ah! General," was the reply, "it is not soldiers like me that he wants, it is officers like you."

LOUIS XV.

BOURBON.

Character—Selfish and unprincipled.

Born . . . February 15, 1710.

Ascended the throne—September 1, 1715.

Principal events—Regency of the King's cousin, Philip Duke of Orleans; the war with Spain, brought on by Cardinal Alberoni; the wars with Germany, England, and Prussia; Bourbon, Fleury, Richelieu, and Choiseul, were successively ministers of the state.

Possessions—France, Navarre, and Corsica, with states in America, &c.

Married—September 5, 1725, the Princess Marie Leczinsky of Poland, *b.* June 23, 1703.

Children—Marie-Louise-Elizabeth, Princess Royal, *b.* August 14, 1727; *m.* Philip Duke of Parma, *b.* March 15, 1720; *the Princess Anne-Henrietta*, *b.* August 14, 1727, *d.* February 20, 1752; *the Princess Marie-Louise*, *b.* July 28, 1728, *d.* February 19, 1733; *Louis the Dauphin*, *b.* September 4, 1729; *m.* 1st, January 25, 1745, the Infanta Maria-Theresa-Antoinette de Bourbon, of Spain; and, 2ndly, February 9, 1747, the Princess Marie-Josephine of Saxony; he *d.* December 19, 1765; *the Duke of Anjou*, *b.* August 18, 1730, *d.* April 7, 1733; Princess Marie-Adelaide, *b.* March 23, 1732, *d.* February 25, 1800; the Princess Victoire-Louise-Marie-Therèse, *b.* May 11, 1733, *d.* June 7, 1799; the Princess Sophie-Philippine, *b.* July 27, 1734, *d.* March 3, 1782; *a Princess*, *b.* May 16, 1736, *d.* September 28, 1744; and the Princess Louise-Marie, a nun, *b.* July 15, 1737, *d.* October 1, 1771.

Death of King Louis—May 10, 1774.

Death of Queen Marie—June 24, 1768.

Parents—{ Louis the Dauphin, grandson of Louis XIV.

{ The Princess Marie-Adelaide de Maurienne of Savoy.
Age when he died—64.

THE BRACELET.

THE amiable and lovely consort of the Dauphin, Marie-Josephine of Saxony, on her first appearance at the court receptions of Queen Marie, daughter of the unhappy Stanislaus of Poland, was required by the etiquette of the day to wear the portrait of her father, set in a bracelet. This Prince was Augustus II., who had succeeded the dethroned exile, Stanislaus, and the Queen naturally shrank from recognising the likeness of one who had been her own bitter enemy, and who had so materially injured the fortunes of her father and family. But, overcoming every feeling of repugnance, and wishing only to reassure her timid daughter-in-law, whose diffidence on the subject was also very evident, she gently asked, "My child, is not that your father's portrait?" Then the Princess raising her arm, the Queen's eyes fell on the beloved countenance of her own father, delicately substituted for the portrait of the obnoxious Augustus. The necessary etiquette, in this case, was not entirely departed from, as Stanislaus was, by marriage, the Princess's grandfather.

LOUIS XVI.

BOURBON.

Character—It has been said of this unfortunate Monarch,
"Sur la trône il fut un bon Roi ; mais captif il
fut sublime !"

♥ *Born* . . . August 23, 1754.

Ascended the throne—May 10, 1774.

Principal events—War with England ; summoning of the States General ; THE GREAT REVOLUTION of 1789 ; destruction of the Bastille ; imprisonment of the Royal Family ; their attempted escape ; and overthrow of the Monarchy.

Possessions—France, Navarre, and provinces in America and India.

Married—May 16, 1770, the Archduchess Marie-Antoinette, of Austria, *b.* Nov. 1, 1755.

Children—Marie-Thérèse, Princess Royal, *b.* December 19, 1778, and *d.* October 19, 1851, having *m.* June 10, 1799, her cousin the Duke of Angoulême, eldest son of Charles X. ; *Louis Joseph the Dauphin*, *b.* October 22, 1781, *d.* June 4, 1789 ; LOUIS CHARLES THE DAUPHIN ; and *the Princess Sophie-Helene*, *b.* July 21, 1786, *d.* June 19, 1787.

Murder of King Louis—January 21, 1793.

Murder of Queen Marie-Antoinette—October 16, 1793.

Parents—{ Louis the Dauphin ;
The Princess Marie Josephine of Saxony.

Age when he died—38.

THE LAST HYMN.

MADAME DE SOULANGES, the Abbess of Royal Lieu, and her numerous sisterhood, were condemned to the scaffold by the revolutionary tribunal : the sole offence of the former having been that she was formerly instructress of the daughters of Louis XV. When the fatal day arrived, and the car, which was to conduct them to the place of execution, had appeared at the prison gates, they all commenced a chant, which was continued when they had reached the scene of death. The head of the first victim rolled on the platform ; but, undismayed, the holy community proceeded in their devotions. One by one, they all suffered, and the Abbess remained alone, raising her voice to heaven. Suddenly there was a silence—she, too, had followed in spirit to the regions of bliss.

LOUIS XVII.

BOURBON.

Character—In consequence of his early and untimely death, it is impossible to give any full account of this Prince's character. As a child and a prisoner, he was pious, meek, and forgiving; and it is probable that, if he had lived longer, he would have proved an excellent and praiseworthy King.

Born . . . March 27, 1785.

Ascended the throne—January 21, 1793.

Principal events—Execution of Philippe, surnamed Egalité, Duke of Orleans; the wars with England, Holland, Prussia, and Spain; Battles of Breda, Klundert, Gertruydenberg, Condé, Valenciennes, &c., &c.; the dreadful war of the Vendee; and the imprisonment and death of the unhappy Monarch.

Possessions—France, Navarre, and many American and Indian states.

Death of King Louis—June 8, 1795.

Parents— { Louis XVI.;
 { The Archduchess Marie-Antoinette of Austria.

Age when he died—10.

The REIGN OF TERROR, which attained its height on the death of this unfortunate Monarch, lasted until the accession of Napoleon Buonaparte.

TRUE GREATNESS.

IN his prison of the Temple sat the youthful Louis XVII., the titular Monarch of France, for whom hundreds were daily yielding up their lives, and whom the best and noblest in the land hailed as their Sovereign. His remorseless jailor (whose sole amusement seemed to be in reviling and taunting his innocent captive in the most virulent and cutting manner) stood by him, scowling heavily beneath his huge and dark eyebrows on the representative of a Hundred Kings! "If the Vendéans were to set you at liberty,"—one day inquired this intruder on his solitude,—"what would you do?" "I would pardon you," instantly replied the noble Prince, raising his soft blue eyes to meet the astonished gaze of his unprincipled tormentor.

N A P O L E O N I.

BUONAPARTE.

Character—An enterprising and successful General in his early career; but, subsequently, ambition and rashness cost him both his throne and his liberty.

Born . . . August 15, 1769.

Proclaimed Emperor—May 20, 1804.

Principal events—Wars with Germany, Prussia, Russia, Spain, Holland and England; Battles of Ulm, Austerlitz, Trafalgar, Lisbon, Madrid, Leipsic, and Waterloo; invasion of Russia; the burning of Moscow; and the fall, capture, and banishment of the Emperor to St. Helena.

Possessions—France, Italy, and many continental states.

Married—1st, in 1796, Marie-Rose-Josephine-Tascher de la Pagerie, Viscountess Beauharnais, *b.* 1768; and, 2ndly, April 1, 1810, the Archduchess Marie-Louise of Austria, *b.* December 12, 1792.*

Child—Napoleon-Francis-Charles-Joseph, King of Rome, *b.* March 20, 1811 (sometimes called N A P O L E O N II.); *d.* in Vienna, July 22, 1832.

Death of the Emperor Napoleon—May 5, 1821.

Death of the Empress Josephine—May 29, 1814.

Death of the Empress Marie-Louise—December 17, 1847.

Parents— { Carlo Buonaparte, a Corsican gentleman.
 { Lætitia Ramolini.

Age when he died—51.

THE PETITION ANSWERED.

DURING a rebellion against the Emperor, a nobleman, of high rank, was seized and condemned for treason; his unhappy Countess immediately flew to the palace, and, although Napoleon's express commands were, that no female petitioners should ever be admitted, she forced herself into his presence. After an affecting interview of some length, during which time the Lady in vain protested her husband's innocence, the Emperor walked towards a cabinet, and drawing from thence a roll of paper, on which the proofs of her husband's guilt were manifested, he held it towards her. She gazed on the fatal scroll with the agony of despair; when, holding the sheet with one hand behind his back, and pointing towards the fire with the other, he allowed the Countess to seize it, and the proofs of her husband's guilt were quickly consumed in the flames.

* In 1816 Marie-Louise became Grand Duchess of Parma, in which capacity she reigned 31 years.

LOUIS XVIII.

BOURBON.

Character—Simple-minded and good-natured, a worthy Monarch, and amiable man.

Born . . . November 17, 1755.

Restored to the throne—July 8, 1815.

Principal events—Restoration of the Monarchy; peace arranged between England, Austria, Russia, and Prussia.

Possessions—France, Navarre, and many provinces in America and India.

Married—14th May, 1771, the Princess Marie-Josephine de Maurienne of Savoy, b. September 2, 1753.

Death of King Louis—September 16, 1824.

Death of Queen Marie-Josephine—November 13, 1810.

Parents—The same as Louis XVI.

Age when he died—68.

THE BLOT.

THE unhappy policy which often obliges Sovereigns to sacrifice the lives of their subjects to the welfare of the state induced the mild Louis XVIII. to hasten the execution of the sentence passed on Marshal Ney, one of Napoleon's most able generals, and who, having been received into favour on the first restoration of the Bourbons, had, nevertheless, rejoined his old master, the Emperor, on the flight of Royalty and the return of the former to Paris. The 7th of December, 1815, was the day on which he was to deliver up his life for the sake of his country, and in the evening he was conducted to an avenue near the Palace of the Luxembourg, where a file of soldiers had been drawn up to receive him. With calmness and resignation the intrepid hero of countless battles met his fate, and, to the indelible disgrace of all those who, by their influence or power, could have saved his life, he fell beneath the discharge of the musketry of the restored Monarchy.

CHARLES X.

BOURBON.

Character—Imprudent and ill-advised. He attempted to govern in too arbitrary a manner, and therefore lost his crown.

Born . . . October 9, 1757.

Ascended the throne—September 16, 1824.

Principal events—Disaffection of the people, and limitation of the authority of the Press; the Revolution of July, 1830; dethronement of the King; exilement of the reigning Royal Family; and proclamation of Louis Philippe, Duke of Orleans, as King of the French.

Possessions—France, Navarre, and provinces in America and India.

Married—November 6, 1773, the Princess Marie-Thérèse de Maurienne of Savoy, *b.* 1756.

Children—Louis-Antoine, the Dauphin, (who after his father's death assumed the title of King), *b.* August 6, 1775; *d.* June 3, 1844, having *m.* June 10, 1799, his cousin Marie-Thérèse-Charlotte, Princess Royal. *Charles Ferdinand, Duke of Berri*, *b.* January 24, 1778, *m.* June 17, 1816, his cousin the Princess Marie-Caroline-Ferdinanda-Louise de Bourbon of Naples, who *d.* April 17, 1870; the Duke was assassinated whilst leaving the opera, February 13, 1820, leaving issue, a daughter, the Princess Louise-Marie-Thérèse, Grand Duchess of Parma, *b.* September 21, 1819; *d.* February 1, 1864; and a son, Henry-Charles-Ferdinand-Marie-Dièdonné, Duke of Bourdeaux, (sometimes called HENRY V.,) *b.* September 29, 1820, *m.* November 16, 1846; the Princess Marie-Thérèse of Modena, *b.* July 14, 1817.

Death of King Charles—November 6, 1836.

Death of Marie-Thérèse—June 2, 1805.

Parents—The same as Louis XVIII.

Age when he died—79.

COUNT D'ARTOIS IN EXILE.

CHARLES X. had many faults; but the following anecdote records an amiable trait of conduct, when an exile in this country, and shows his consideration for the feelings of others. During his residence in Holyrood House, Edinburgh, the severity of his creditors confined him to the privileged limits of the Palace. Sunday being the only day of entire freedom, he used then to visit the city, and was exceedingly struck with the decorous behaviour of the people, and their regular attendance at public worship. On his return to the Palace, he forbade his own people to play at tennis and other games, as was usual. They were naturally surprised at this, and ventured to remark; "that their religion required no such austerity." "True," said he, "this forbearance makes no part of my religion, but I think it is a return which we owe to the hospitality of the nation under whose protection we live, to give up a trifling gratification that is incompatible with their ideas of sanctity and decorum."

LOUIS PHILIPPE.

BOURBON. HOUSE OF ORLEANS.

Character—A sagacious Politician, and kind-hearted Monarch ; in private life a most affectionate and devoted Husband, and a tender and anxious Father.

Born . . . October 6, 1773.

Ascended the throne—August 9, 1830.

Principal events—Settlement of a French colony in Algeria ; the death of the Duke of Orleans ; and the REVOLUTION OF FEBRUARY, 1842, when Louis Philippe quitted France, with all his family ; the proclamation of a REPUBLIC.

Possessions—France, and Provinces in India, Africa, and America.

Married—November 25, 1809, Her Royal Highness the Princess Marie-Amelie de Bourbon of Naples, b. April 26, 1782.

Children—*Fredinand - Philip - Louis - Charles - Henry - Joseph, Duke of Orleans*, b. September 3, 1810 ; *m.* May 30, 1837, the Princess Helena-Louisa-Elizabeth of Mecklenburg Schwerin, b. January 24, 1814 ; *d.* May 18, 1858 ; the Duke was killed by a fall from his carriage, July 13, 1842 : *Louisa-Maria-Theresa-Charlotte-Isabella*, b. April 3, 1812 ; *m.* August 9, 1832, Leopold I. King of the Belgians, b. December 16, 1790 ; *d.* December 10, 1865 : *Mary-Christina-Caroline-Adelaide-Frances-Leopoldina*, b. April 12, 1813 ; *m.* October 17, 1837, Duke Frederick-William-Alexander of Wurtemberg, b. December 20, 1804 ; and she died January 2, 1839 : *Louis-Charles-Philippe-Raphael, Duke of Nemours*, b. October 25, 1814 ; *m.* April 27, 1840, the Princess Victoria-Augusta-Antoinetta of Saxe Coburg, Saalfeld, b. February 4, 1822 ; and *d.* November 10, 1857 : *Marie-Clementine-Caroline-Leopoldine-Clotilde*, b. June 3, 1817 ; *m.* April 20, 1843, Prince Augustus Louis-Victor of Saxe Coburg Saalfeld, b. June 13, 1818 : *Francis-Ferdinand-Philippe-Louis-Marie, Prince de Joinville*, b. August 14, 1818 ; *m.* May 1, 1843, the Infanta Frances-Caroline-Jean de Bra-

ganza of Brazil, *b.* August 2, 1824 : *Charles-Ferdinand, Duke of Penthièvre*, *b.* January 1, 1820 : Henry-Eugene - Philippe-Louis, Duke of Aumale, *b.* June 16, 1822 ; *m.* November 25, 1844, the Princess Maria-Caroline-Augusta de Bourbon of Naples, *b.* April 26, 1822 ; *d.* December 6, 1869 : Antoine-Marie-Philippe-Louis, Duke of Montpensier, *b.* July 31, 1824, *m.* October 10, 1846, the Infanta Louisa Fernanda de Bourbon of Spain, *b.* January 30, 1832.

Death of King Louis Philippe—August 26, 1850.

Death of Queen Marie-Amelie—March 24, 1866.

Parents— { Philippe, Duke of Orleans, descended from Philip,
2nd son of King Louis XIII.
Princess Louisa of Penthièvre.

Age when he died—76.

THE INDIGNANT REPLY.

WHEN the Revolution of the three days was completed, and King Charles, with his children and grandchildren, had been banished from the country, M. Thiers and M. Schaffer, two members of the Provisional Government, were deputed to visit Neuilly, where the Duke of Orleans was then residing, and to render the crown to that Prince on the terms of a revised charter. On their arrival at the Château, the Duke himself was absent, and the envoys were ushered into the presence of the Duchess, and the Princess Adelaide, the Duke's sister. The former, on being acquainted with the object of their visit, with the utmost indignation rejected, in her husband's name, the crown which had been so lately torn from the brow of their nearest relative : but the Princess insisted upon postponing the answer until her brother's return. On Louis Philippe being informed of the transaction, he requested a day's consideration, and then, acceding to their wishes, proceeded to Paris on the 31st of July, to be invested with the Kingly dignity.

NAPOLEON III.

BUONAPARTE.

Character—In exile, as on the throne—in adversity, as in prosperity, Napoleon the Third, both as a man and a prince, is admirable.

Born . . . April 20, 1808.

Proclaimed Emperor—December 2, 1852.

Principal events—The Crimean War; the war with Austria, Battles of Magenta and Solferino, Annexation of Nice. International Exhibitions of 1855 and 1867. Opening of the Suez Canal. War with Prussia. Battles of Saarbruck, Weissenburg, Woerth, &c. Capitulation of Sedan and surrender of the Emperor. Proclamation of A REPUBLIC, September 4, 1870.

Possessions—France, and its Dependencies.

Married—January 29, 1853; Marie EUGÉNIE de Montijo, Countess of Teba, *b.* May 5, 1826.

Child—Napoleon-Eugene-Louis-John-Joseph, Prince Imperial, *b.* March 16, 1856.

Parents—

{	Louis Napoleon Buonaparte, King of Holland,
	younger brother of Napoleon I. <i>d.</i> July 25, 1846.
{	Hortense de Beauharnais, daughter of the Empress
	Josephine by her first husband, the Vicomte de Beauharnais, <i>d.</i> October 5, 1837.

THE LAST WISH.

OVER the bronze door, which gives access to the crypt at the Hotel des Invalides, wherein lie deposited the mortal remains of Napoleon the First, the following inscription is to be seen on a black marble slab :—

“Je désire que mes cendres reposent sur les bords de la Seine, au milieu de ce peuple Français que j’ai tant aimé.”

May Napoleon the Third, more fortunate than his renowned predecessor, (whose last wish was eventually fulfilled) return ere long, with his amiable and gracious Empress, to the banks of the Seine, and restore Peace, Concord and Happiness, to the Great People of France !

